

- **Colombia Mennonite Church asks for prayer amid violence** - Mennonite Church of Colombia (IMCOL) asks us to pray for them as they support congregations in areas of violence. "Violence is widespread and affects us all. There is not a day that goes by that we do not hear of deaths, fighting and coca crops and fear for the welfare of children, young people and the whole church. But as a Church we cannot fall into despair. These events pain us but we must strengthen our hope in God." Praise God for the witness of peace they bring to the region and the strong message of hope in darkness.

- **Pray for the future of PeaceBuilders Community, Inc.** PeaceBuilders Community, Inc., in Mindanao, Philippines, invites you to pray with them as they plan with Witness workers, Dann and Joji Pantoja, a sustainable future of training for peace and reconciliation and economic development with marginalized communities. Pray for wisdom as they seek God's vision for peace and harmony with the people and the land.

- **Bethlehem Bible College** (supported through the Mennonite Church Canada Palestine-Israel Network) has been hit hard by the coronavirus outbreak. Pray for healing as many have succumbed to the disease and the hospitals are overwhelmed. Pray for economic recovery as tourism isn't an option at this time. Pray for vaccines.

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

**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.*

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.

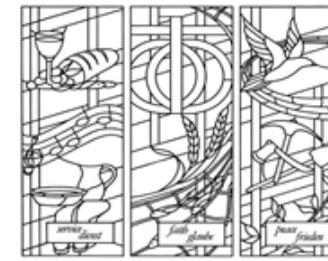
~ Adapted from "Deep calls to deep" *Leader* Winter 2020-21
Vol. 18 No. 2 p. 36

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**

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

VOLUME LX No.13

March 28, 2021

Deep in the current: Called to deep hope

GATHERING

Prelude

Hosanna! - Palm branches parade

Hymn VT #313, HWB #238 Hosanna, loud hosanna

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: In the current of life, God calls us to deep hope.

Many: God wakens my ear, and I turn to God. I do not turn toward those who strike me. I do not hide my face from insult.

One: God helps us, so let us stand up together.

Many: Save us, O Lord! Bind the festival procession with branches. You are our God. We give thanks, for you are good, and your steadfast love endures.

One: Many shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!"

Many: The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus, who humbled himself and became our hope.

All: We call out to you, as you call us to deep hope.

LISTENING

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Hymn VT #314 Holy Lord

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.

Children's Time

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Many: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess the rapid pace of life that sweeps us off our feet into whirlpools of expectations, into eddies of busy distractions.

We confess our need for a steadfast stream of your grace enduring forever, saving us.

(Silence. Or name the forces that keep us from deep hope.)

Deep calls to deep.

You call to us from the depth of your love.

Many: Calling us to deep hope. We come to you, God.

Hymn VT #621, HWB #343 My hope is built

Scripture Reading: John 12:12-16; Philippians 2:5-11

Message To think like Jesus Pastor Dan Kehler

RESPONDING

Time for Contemplation - *In Christ Alone My Hope is Found*

Prayer for the Congregation

Hymn VT #414, HWB #319 Jesus shall reign

Sending Blessing

Postlude

Worship Leader: Elaine Loewen

Musicians: Dave & Hildie Regehr, Ken & Elaine Loewen,
Sandra Klassen, Bretlyn Loewen

Story Teller: Lori Dueck

Recording Technician: Dale Klassen

Worship & Meeting Events at AMC

March 30 7:30 pm Zoom coffee – email Dan

April 1 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday communion via Zoom

The link was sent in a separate email

April 2 Good Friday – no recorded service

April 4 Easter

Theme: Deep in the feast: Called to deep living *Scripture:*

Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; John 20:1-18; Acts

10:34-43; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 *Speaker(s):* Dan Kehler

Worship Leader: Marilyn Houser Hamm *Musicians:* Lori &

Loren Hiebert *Sound:* Nathan Loewen

April 7 7:15 pm Worship Committee meeting

April 11 Worship Service

Birthdays: March 30 – Susan Klassen; April 2 – Vic Penner,
April 3 – Bretlyn Loewen

Anniversaries: March 28 – Loren Brault & Lori Dueck; April 3
– Andrea & Karey Hildebrand

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Elaine Loewen - I have felt and appreciated all the support I have received during my time with cancer. The wonderful news is that I do not need chemo but I have chosen to go with the radiation treatments.

- 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 etransfer to amchurchdonations@gmail.com, or send or bring a cheque to AMC (Box 1237, Altona, R0G 0B0)

WIDER COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Sheila Klassen-Wiebe**, CMU Associate Professor of New Testament, is writing a commentary on the book of James, as part of the Believer's Church Bible Commentary series – the seventh CMU professor to author a Commentary in this series. As part of CMU's ReNew: Resources for Preaching series (intended for *all* those involved in ministry), Sheila will reflect on the question *'How do you preach from James so that it doesn't sound like a scolding, or a long list of "do's and don'ts"?' Wednesday, March 31, 11:00 AM (CDT). Join us! Free registration at www.cmu.ca/renew.*

- 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

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- 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 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.

- **Camps with Meaning Leadership Team announced**

Janet Peters, Assoc Program Director - Camps with Meaning is pleased to announce the Leadership Team for our 2021 Summer Camp program. Please pray for these young leaders as they begin to prepare for another interesting summer.

Summer Program Directors: Nic Harder (River East (MB)) and Katie Wilson (attending Home St), Bible Instructor: Johanna Klassen (First), Nature Instructor: Scott Warkentin (Home St), Coordinator: Trey Dornn (attending Westview Christian Fellowship in ON), Coordinator: Carrie Schulz (Home St), SLT Directors: Claudia Dueck (Douglas) and Dylan Peters (Bethel), TV Director: Mackenzie Nicolle (Home St)

Prayer for the World

- **Continued prayer for Myanmar** - With news of increasing violence in Myanmar, we invite you to continue to pray for the people of Myanmar. Pray also for our nationwide siblings in our community of faith, many of whom are still unable to reach their family members in Myanmar. We invite you to reach out with encouragement to: Calgary Chin Church, Alta. Chin Christian Church, Kitchener, OntGrace Christian Church, Ottawa, OntKitchener Emmanuel Church, Ont. Living Hope Christian Fellowship, Surrey, B.C.