

We have been given permissions to use the logo from the MCManitoba AGM on our bulletin for the next weeks.

From the Pastor:

This week the trial of George Floyd concluded with a guilty verdict. Many have proclaimed that Justice has been done. But this is not the case. After Derek Chauvin's guilty verdict was read, Keith Ellison, Minnesota attorney general, gave a press conference and had this to say.

"I want to thank the community for giving us that time, and allowing us to do that work," he says. "That long, hard, painstaking work has culminated today."

"I would not call today's verdict justice, however, because justice implies true restoration, but it is accountability – which is the first step towards justice."

"George Floyd mattered," he says. "He was loved by his family and his friends. His death shocked the conscience of our community, our country, the whole world," Ellison says. "But that isn't why he mattered. He mattered because he was a human being."

"This has to end, we need justice," Ellison says.

"This verdict reminds us that we must make enduring, systemic, societal change."

When the Bible speaks of Justice, it is the kind that Ellison so boldly states; "justice implies true restoration." While Chauvin has been held accountable for his actions, justice will only be served once systemic injustices have been changed and BIPOC no longer fear for their lives or the lives of their children. Thus we continue to pray as Jesus taught his disciples, "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven."

Easter Season Theme

During the Easter Season (Easter to Pentecost) the theme for AMC's worship is "Rooted in Christ...Reaching out in Love." This was also the theme for the 2021 Mennonite Church Manitoba (MCM) Gathering earlier this winter. As a congregation of congregations MC Manitoba has always been "Rooted in Christ." "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 3:11) While MCM has always been "Reaching out in Love," the changing times call us to continually reevaluate the collective mission. This is where the ellipsis is important. The full theme is "Rooted in Christ – in order to envision where we might be – Reaching out in Love." The theme points to the future where new possibilities and emerging opportunities are present in the changing times. Many churches, including AMC's leadership have wondered about the future. While congregations have adapted to life during a pandemic as best they could, there is the lingering question what will life be like after the pandemic? It is acknowledged that a return to the way things were before the pandemic is no longer viable. The world has forever changed. Can the church adapt while remaining faithful to its call? "Rooted in Christ... Reaching out in Love," is a call to faithful wonder and trusting curiosity in the God of Love knowing that the Body of Christ will always find new ways of manifesting in the changing world. This is our call; this is our hope in this Easter Season.

As part of our Easter Season Theme links to videos that highlight the ministries of Mennonite Church Manitoba will be available on AMC's website. There will be a new one each week beside the link to the worship service. It is a wonderful encouragement to see how our community of congregations are engaged in a shared ministry.

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.*



**Rooted in Christ
Reaching Out in Love**

VOLUME LX No.17

April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday

ENTERING WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome, sharing information

Hymn VT #100 Praise Him, Praise Him

Call to Worship

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Psalm 23; John 10:11-18

(see video about sheep)

Hymn VT #9 Come Away From Rush and Hurry

Message Abiding Presence Pastor Dan Kehler

Music for Reflection

RESPONDING

Hymn VT #744 Shepherd Me, O God

A time for prayer

Hymn VT #849 We, Your People, Sing Your Praises

Benediction

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.

Worship leader: Ray Hamm
Musicians: Lori & Loren Hiebert
Recording Technician: Dale Klassen

Worship & Meeting Events at AMC

April 28 7:30 pm Leadership Council meeting
May 2 Worship Service – Fifth Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8
Speaker(s): Ray Hamm *Worship Leader:* Harry Wiens
Musicians: Dave & Hildie Regehr *Sound:* Loren Braul
May 5 7:15 pm Worship Committee Meeting
May 9 Worship Service

Birthdays: April 28 – Marlene Plett; May 1 – Wayne Bergen, Albert Bergen

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June Schwartz is thrilled to announce the arrival of her great granddaughter Clementine Noelle born March 11, 2021 to Morgan and Joey Friesen. Ryan, Vicki and Riley are also pleased that Clem is now at home with her mom and dad. Clem had some health problems which required a prolonged stay at Children's Hospital. Her health has stabilized and doctors are confident of a full recovery.

- 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

- **April 29, 5 – 7 pm, Gardens on Tenth Drive-Thru Mexican Fundraising Fiesta** – Drive in off 5th St NE, south entrance, pick up food, make a donation, enjoy.

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

- **Campers are registering for summer camps and this means we also need staff and volunteers!** Kitchen and maintenance help, camp pastors and health officers are needed for one-day pop-up camps in various locations and

week-long day camps at both camps. Head to www.campswithmeaning.org Summer

- **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

- **A spring MCC Golf Yard Sale is being held on May 14 & 15th, at 7 Mercury Bay.** You are invited to donate golf clubs or other golf related items that you no longer need. Donations may be dropped off at the Selkirk Ave MCC Thrift Shop or Sargent MCC Thrift Shop or at 7 Mercury Bay. If you have questions call Ron or Connie Loepky at 204-261-4949 or 204-296-4949. All proceeds go to support the work of MCC.

- Your church can join a community of compassionate Manitobans working to end global hunger. Sponsor an acre of Manitoba farmland with **Grow Hope** and help provide food and agriculture training for people in places like Cambodia and DR Congo. Plus, every \$1 you give can grow up to \$5! Visit mccmb.ca/GrowHope or call Simone at 204-261-6381 to find out how to get started.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Elaine Loewen will be taking radiation treatments from April 22 - 28th. She is grateful for all your prayers and support.

- Harry Klassen has begun radiation treatments for prostate cancer. It is going well. Pray for strength, and safety as they travel to Winnipeg.

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

- Ken Hamm has returned to the Altona hospital. Karen Martens is allowed to bring him suppers. This has helped his appetite. 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

- **Palestine-Israel Network urges advocacy against destruction of Palestinian homes** - Church leaders in the Holy Land urge the global church to advocate against the demolition of Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem to expand Israeli settlements--moves that contravene international law and human rights. Go to the links at the Mennonite Church Canada Palestine-Israel Network (PIN) web page for information on a letter-writing campaign asking Ottawa to speak out against this injustice.

- **China Witness workers to return to Canada** - After 30 years of service in Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China, George and Tobia Veith will return to Canada this summer. Pray for them as they adjust to this shift in their lives and ministry. Pray for their family in Canada and colleagues in China and for the changes this will cause in their lives.

- **Prayer for young adults during pandemic** - The fall-out of the pandemic has been particularly difficult for young people just graduating and starting their work lives. Three of our Witness worker families have young adults living in Canada, while their parents serve internationally. Pray their children find the emotional and financial help that they need.

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