

## **Prayer for the World**

- **Maliwan welcomes new believers** - The Maliwan Church in Khon Kaen, Thailand, welcomed four baptisms on Easter Sunday. Thank God for this growing group of Jesus followers who share life together in worship, income-generation work, discipleship training and community service. Pray for Witness workers Tom and Christine Poovong as they provide leadership and mentoring to this group.

- **Donors raise funds for dehydrator for Coffee for Peace** - Praise God for the generosity of Canadian donors which enables Coffee for Peace in Mindanao, Philippines, to purchase a dehydrator to dry surplus vegetables grown by their coffee producers, and to make cascara tea out of coffee pulp waste. Witness worker Lakambini Mapayapa (Joji Pantoja) gives leadership to this social enterprise that supports the work of PeaceBuilders Community, Inc., in several areas of the Philippines.

- **Rising virus cases in Ethiopia** - Rising COVID-19 cases in the midst of complicated ethnic division in Ethiopia are affecting the ministry of Meserete Kristos Church. We pray for God's peace to reign and unity within the church to be strengthened.

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

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

## **Prayer in Solidarity**

Loving God, you fill all things with a fullness and hope that we can never comprehend. Thank you for leading us into a time where more of reality is being unveiled for us all to see. We pray that you will take away our natural temptation for cynicism, denial, fear, and despair.

Help us have the courage to awaken to greater truth, greater humility, and greater care for one another. May we place our hope in what matters and what lasts, trusting in your eternal presence and love. Listen to our heart's longings for the healing of our suffering world. (We pray for our health care workers and government....) note: in this line we are invited to add our own prayer. Knowing, good God, you are hearing us better that we are speaking, We offer these prayers in all the holy names of God. Amen

## **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.18

May 2, 2021

## ***Fifth Sunday of Easter***

### **ENTERING WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn VT #103 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Call to Worship

Hymn VT #145 Touch the Earth Lightly

### **HEARING THE WORD**

Introduction

Scripture Readings John 15:1-8; 1 John 4:7-21

Hymn HWB #373 Thou true Vine, that heals

Message Make yourself at home Ray Hamm

### **RESPONDING**

Hymn VT #733 O Everlasting Love

A time for prayer

Benediction

Hymn VT #638 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

### **AMC Contact information:**

Pastor: Dan Kehler [amcpastordan@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:altonamennonite@gmail.com)

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

*Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.*

Worship leader: Harry Wiens  
Musicians: Dave & Hildie Regehr, Ken & Elaine Loewen,  
Marilyn Houser Hamm  
Recording Technician: Loren Braul

### **Worship & Meeting Events at AMC**

May 5 7:15 pm Worship Committee Meeting  
May 9 Worship Service – Sixth Sunday of Easter  
*Theme:* "In Search of a Less Manly God" *Scripture:* John 3:1-15 *Speaker(s):* Greg Costen *Worship Leader:* June Schwartz  
*Musicians:* Loren Braul, Gina Enns *Sound:* Nathan Loewen  
May 16 Worship Service – Seventh Sunday of Easter  
May 23 Worship Service – Pentecost  
June 2 7:30 pm Leadership Meeting

**Birthdays:** May 3 – Jean Tarnick, Mike Tarnick; May 4 – Genevieve Krahn

**Anniversaries:** May 3 – Robert & Peggy Martens; May 4 – Jim & Marlene Dyck

### **AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Wayne and Tracy Bergen are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Rachel to Ryan Wiebe. A September wedding is being planned.

- John & Lil Gerbrandt have moved into their new home. You will find them at 225-5<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Altona, R0G 0B2

#### **- 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](mailto:amchurchdonations@gmail.com), or send or bring a cheque to AMC (Box 1237, Altona, R0G 0B0)  
Check the latest minutes and financial statements for more information.

### **WIDER COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Camps with Meaning Summer Staff applications are on the CwM website. Visit [www.campswithmeaning.org](http://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](http://www.campswithmeaning.org)

- **One week Spring Intensive Course Options!** CMU is offering great intensive (one week!) course options through the spring beginning on May 3 with *Christian Worship: Patterns and Practices*. Also offered this spring are [\*New Testament Letters in 1st Century and Middle Eastern Perspective\*](#); [\*Refugees and Displacement: Learning to Extend Hospitality\*](#); [\*Creation and Community in Biblical and Indigenous Perspective\*](#) and [\*Community-Based Research and Peacebuilding\*](#). **All courses are available in hybrid format** (both in person and online). Consider taking one of these courses for credit or audit! Go to [www.cmu.ca/intensivecourses](http://www.cmu.ca/intensivecourses) for more information and to register.

- **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](http://mccmb.ca/GrowHope) or call Simone at 204-261-6381 to find out how to get started.

- It is with considerable regret that Eden has accepted the resignation of our Chief Executive Officer, Kym Kaufmann. Kym will now become the Deputy Minister in Manitoba's new ministry, "Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery." Kym leaves Eden with an excellent staff, strong systems, and expanding services. Eden has initiated a search, and we seek your support, particularly in prayer, as we search for Eden's next leader. Further details and application processes are on Eden's website <https://edenhealthcare.ca/chief-executive-officer/>.

### **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

- 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 home. He is doing well.

- 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.

- **Let us remember in prayer our MCM sibling church, Living Word Church in Cross Lake.** Cross Lake First Nation has been hit hard by COVID over the past year, with several hundred cases and seven deaths. As the community has been under a stay-at-home order, the church has not met since October and they have not been able to gather virtually. Pray for vaccinations to happen quickly, for the ongoing health and safety of community and church members, and for the future of the church post-COVID.