

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

- Mark Sawatzky had a successful surgery. It was complicated but has been told he is Cancer free. Please pray for this challenging time of healing. Your prayers are very much appreciated. Thank you.
- Pray for Ken & Marianne Braun and Mike Tarnick who are at Eastview.
- Ken Hamm has returned home. He is doing very 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**

- MCI requests prayer for their Graduates – That they can make meaningful memories during their last few weeks on campus. We ask for peace and joy as they process the disappointment of graduation celebrations not unfolding as they had hoped. AND also for their Transitioning Staff - Jozanna Loewen (Dean), Paul Peters (Director of Student Life), and Kathy Franz (EA). We ask for prayer over these staff members as they complete their last weeks at MCI and anticipate the changes that lie ahead. We are grateful for their service at MCI, they will be missed.
- 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.
- Pray for Michael Pahl, our MCManitoba's Executive Minister.

## **Prayers for the World**

- **Situation in Colombia still dire** - The Colombian Mennonite Church asks us to continue to stand with them in prayer. Churches supporting protesters have received death threats from paramilitary groups. Yalile Caballero, IMCOL president, says that youth feel hopeless because the protests and strikes do not bring change. Along with violence against protesters and illegal detentions, COVID-19 continues to spread, with more than 500 new cases daily and ICU beds at capacity.
- **New faith siblings in Burkina Faso** - Please pray for the 28 newly-baptized believers in the Mennonite churches in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, that their faith and witness continue to grow in life-giving ways. In the words of

Siaka Traoré, founding church-planter and pastor of the churches in Bobo, "Thanks be to God who makes the church grow."

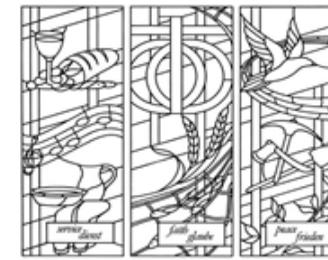
*If you would like to add or remove any prayer requests, please contact the church office.*

## **From the Pastor:**

This summer AMC's worship will be centered on the theme *Nurturing Joy*. How do we nurture joy in our lives not only during a pandemic but in all seasons of life? Restrictions to keep our community safe have taken away many of the things that make life rich and meaningful. Many people say they have become unmotivated to engage with daily routines and schedules. Others have suggested that we are experiencing "Groundhog days." This is in reference the 1993 movie where Bill Murray is a reporter doing a story on local Groundhog lore. In a twist of fate, he wakes up every morning at 6:00 AM only to repeat the same day over and over. Some say there is a disconnection with life in general creating a haze of time where one day runs into the next with no sense moving forward. If you have asked what day of the week it is more than once a week this could be you. It is like a mild depression that exhausts one's motivation for basic daily plans. The stereotypical portrait of this is sitting on the couch wearing pajamas in a messy house eating junk food while endlessly binge watching TV.

Psychologists have used the term languishing to describe this condition. Even with the hope offered by the vaccines, the lingering effects of languishing for so long will be with us for months, even years. Paul's letter to the Philippians is often called his epistle of joy. Shackled in prison, possibly facing execution for his belief that Jesus is Lord and Caesar is not, the apostle Paul experiences a remarkable joy despite his dire circumstances. How can this be? But what is joy that it might be found while imprisoned?

How is it that Paul could nurture such Joy with his freedoms severely curtailed? Perhaps joy can only be nurtured when we realize the finitude of our existence in the vast unknowability of the cosmos. Paul's letter to the church at Philippi informs us how we might nurture joy in this extended time of languishing.



# Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LX No.24

June 13, 2021

Welcome to All Worshipping with us Today  
– A Service of Music and Reflection –  
*for the lives of the 215 children whose remains were found in unmarked graves at the former site of the Kamloops Indian Residential School, Kamloops, BC, their families and communities, and all survivors of Residential Schools; and in solidarity with Muslim families in Canada as we grieve the tragic murders of parents and children of a Muslim family in London, Ontario*  
Lord, have mercy.

“I will lift my eyes to the hills, from whence comes my help.....”  
-Psalm 121

*Hearing the Psalmist's voice*  
Hymn: Reflection: Come Thou Fount Paul Krahn, vocals & guitar  
Hymn: Reflection: I Am a Pilgrim Paul Krahn vocals & guitar  
Congr. Hymn VT #743 Just a Closer Walk With Thee

“.....My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.....”  
-Psalm 121

*Scripture Reflection: Proverbs 2: 1-10*  
Congr. Hymn VT #636 Spirit, Open My Heart

### **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.*

Preparing to Pray

Hymn Reflection: *The Lone Wild Bird*\* \*

Mother/Son Lynette Wiebe & Dan Wiebe

Prayer Dorothy & Vince Fontaine\*

Time of Silence

Hymn Reflection: *Jewels* Paul Krahn, vocals & guitar

Praying with VT #643 *Healing River of the Spirit*

Song: *If It Be Your Will*— Leonard Cohen Paul Krahn, vocals & guitar

“...You shall go out with joy.....” -Isaiah 55

Scripture Reflection: Isaiah 55: 10-12

Musical Sending: Reprise: *If It Be Your Will*

Our service this morning is led by Paul Krahn and Marilyn Houser Hamm. The recording was done by Nathan Loewen. Thank you for sharing this time of prayer and reflection with us.

\* Dorothy Fontaine is Director of Mission for Mennonite Church Manitoba, and husband Vince is of the Sagkeeng First Nation.

\* We rejoice in the ongoing recovery of Lynette Wiebe, friend of Marilyn, from stem cell transplant in February; the return of her voice, and the joy of her visual artistry and of collaborating with vocalist/arranger-Son Dan Wiebe.

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

**June 20 7:30 pm Worship Service on-line via Zoom**

*Theme:* The Joy of the Creatures - Readings for the Seven Days of Creation *Scripture:* Psalm 19:1-5, Genesis 1:1-2:3, Job 38:1-7 *Speaker(s):* Dan Kehler *Worship Leader:* Andrea Hildebrand *Musicians:* Loren & Lori Hiebert *Sound:* Kevin Neufeld

June 27 Worship Service

July 4 Worship Service

**Birthdays:** June 13 – Susie Fisher; June 14 – Anne Loewen; June 19 – Crystal Kehler

**Anniversaries:** June 18 – Ron & Karen Martens, Kevin & Nancy Neufeld, Mike & Jean Tarnick

### **AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Be it Resolved Challenge** - This June, during Indigenous Peoples History Month, Mennonite Church Canada is launching the Be It Resolved Challenge! Members of our Mennonite Church Canada family are invited to reflect on the profound commitments that our community of faith has made to Indigenous justice over the last 50 years and to respond, in turn, with your very own resolution. What those resolutions will be, no one knows at this point. Each of us will discern in conversation with Christ, the text, and the many friends who have decided to join this journey. If you would like to join the Be it Resolved Challenge talk to Pastor Dan or visit, <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/event/11787-2021-06-01-be-it-resolved-challenge>

There is a small group from AMC already registered so please consider joining us.

#### **- From the treasurer:**

As we mourn with our Indigenous sisters and brothers, we are thankful that our regular AMC donations to Mennonite Church Canada contribute, to the ongoing work of reconciliation. Thank you again for supporting the all 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](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.

- **Work on the front stairs and wheelchair ramp has begun!** Because we are adding the ramp right away, costs are higher. Donations are being asked for to cover the extra monies needed. Contact Robert Martens or Bill Loewen for more information

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

- **Upcoming mobile Blood Donor clinic:** Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2 – 7 pm at Altona - Rhineland Pioneer Centre, Main Floor Hall 227 10th Ave NW. Please call 1-888-236-6283, or go on-line to book your appointment - **NO WALK INS PLEASE.**

- **MCI Golf Classic – The 7th Annual MCI Golf Classic has been postponed to July 10-18** at the Minnewasta Gold Course. To Register, call MCI at 204-327-5891 by June 30th. (\$150 per player/\$35 donation receipt)

- **MCC'S virtual challenge is back!** Join us for GO! 100 all summer long. Challenge yourself or a team to complete 100 of

anything while raising funds for peacebuilding projects around the world. Click [here](#) to get started or visit [mccmb.ca/go-100](http://mccmb.ca/go-100).

- **Join the "Ring up the Cash" Camps with Meaning Covid Relief Campaign.** We are expecting a concerning deficit this year. So far, about a third of the hoped for \$25,000 has been raised. Donate and/or join the campaign. Visit our special campaign site to learn more and participate: [ringupthecash.causevox.com](http://ringupthecash.causevox.com)

#### **- Camps with Meaning volunteer needs:**

Health Officers needed for our one-day pop-up camps (Aug 3, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13) and August 22-26 at Assiniboia. Kitchen Help needed July 4-9 and July 12-16 at Assiniboia. Maintenance Help needed most weeks. Camp Pastors needed August 9-13, 22-28 at Assiniboia.

- **Camps with Meaning day camp weeks** have filled up fast but we still have room at many of our Pop-Up Camps in August. Let us bring a little taste of camp to you! August 4 at Grace MC in Steinbach, August 5 at Morden MC, August 6 at Koinonia, August 9 at Fort Garry MF, August 10 at Jubilee, August 12 at Bethel MC and August 13 at Assiniboia. [www.campswithmeaning.org](http://www.campswithmeaning.org)

- **Join our nationwide community of faith for Mennonite Church Canada's AGM on Saturday, June 19, 1-2:30 p.m. EDT.** We will hear updates from our program directors, enjoy worship and reflect together as members of Mennonite Church Canada Joint Council share what God has showed them over the past year. All are welcome to register. Link: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/event/11737-2021-06-19-mennonite-church-canada-agm-2021>

- **20<sup>th</sup> annual CMU Golf Classic:** Join us at CMU's annual golf fundraiser in support of student athletes and student financial aid on **June 15** at Kingswood Golf & Country Club. Visit [www.cmu.ca/golf](http://www.cmu.ca/golf) to register or become a sponsor.

- Eden Foundation invites you to come play golf at Gretna's Oakview Golf Course on Saturday, **August 14. (note new date)** Tee off time 9 am. **Eden Foundation's Charity Golf Tournament.** A new twist on an old game. Play 36 holes, 54 holes or 72 holes all for the same low price. Free! Here's the twist, we want you to raise some money for mental health care. Due to present Covid health regulations, the maximum number of people we can accept is 36 participants. For more information go to <http://edenhealthcare.ca>