

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

- 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**

- 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**

- **COVID restrictions reduce connection for Witness workers** - Travel restrictions within Thailand due to COVID-19 have limited the amount of time that Witness workers Tom and Christine Poovong spend with the network of 40 congregations that are part of the Friends of Grace Church Association. Pray that the Poovongs will continue to find creative ways to connect and that the local leaders of these congregations will grow in confidence and wisdom.

- **Learning together – online conversation with Colombia Mennonite Church** - July 10, 2021, 11 a.m. CDT Pray for the planning and the speakers in the online conversation between the Colombian Mennonite Church and Mennonite Church Canada. We will learn about current events in our countries and how our churches are responding. To register, visit <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/event/11867-2021-07-10-learning-together-an-online-conversation>

*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.

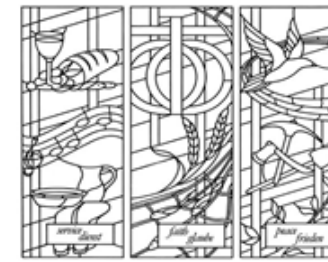
Psychologists have used the term languishing to describe this condition. Even with the hope offered by the vaccines, the lingering effects of languishing for so long will be with us for months, even years. Paul's letter to the Philippians is often called his epistle of joy. Shackled in prison, possibly 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.

**The Quilts** bring me joy, designing, making, meditating.

**Colour My World With...Love** I love applique, circles, and rainbows in all their meanings – love, inclusion, promise, hope.

**Hearts and Tulips 3.0** – This quilt was started in 2009. I intended to do a whole quilt with just the small blocks, but got caught up making many baby quilts instead. So Version 2.0 was to add the larger blocks to the quilt. Version 3.0 happened when I decided to join the sections with the appliqued vine.



# Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LX No.26

June 27, 2021

## ***Nurturing Joy: Joy Rebels***

Prelude

Call to Worship

Psalm 84:1-4

Invocation

Hymn VT #411 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Opening Prayer

Hymn VT #790 How Can We Be Silent

Passing The Peace

Scripture Philippians 1:27-30

Sermon Good Citizens Pastor Dan Kehler

Prayer

Hymn VT #791 Let Justice Roll

Benediction

Hymn VT #810 Go, My Friends In Grace

Postlude

Worship Leader: Susie Fisher

Musicians: Dave & Hildie Regehr, Ken & Elaine Loewen,  
Marilyn Houser Hamm

Recording: Henry Rempel

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

July 4          Worship Service

*Theme:* Nurturing Joy – Joy Shines *Scripture:* Philippians

2:12-30 *Speaker(s):* Pastor Dan Kehler *Worship Leader:*

Elaine Loewen *Musicians:* Gina Enns, Marlene Wiebe

*Recording:* Dale Klassen

July 11 Small groups meet as possible, no recorded service

July 18          Worship Service

July 25          Worship Service

**Birthdays:** July 1 – Mark Ratzlaff, Mary Costen; July 2 – Steve Penner; July 3 – Cheryl Giesbrecht

**Anniversaries:** June 27 – Nathan & Kareena Loewen; June 28 – Henry & Margaret Rempel; June 30 – Kerry & Gina Enns; July 1 – Paul & Margruite Krahn

### **AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Congratulations to Jesse Wiebe** who graduated from MCI this year. Best wishes in the coming year!

- **email correction** Nancy Ratzlaff is ratzloffn24@gmail.com

- **Sunday July 11 Small group gatherings** - As restrictions are easing, it is time to refamiliarize ourselves with gathering as a congregation. The plan is to start off small and ease our way in. Instead of a worship service, the groups that were previously organized for the passing of the communion bread and the sharing acts of kindness will be meeting. Group leaders will organize a time and place to meet (doesn't have to be Sunday morning but could be) for a time of sharing and fellowship. In keeping with the *Nurturing Joy* theme the following starter question is offered. "What has been a source of joy for you during the long months of restricted/limited contact with others?" You might consider recording some of the ways that emerge to be shared with the congregation at a later date.

- **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:**

Summer is upon us and that means many children are anticipating a camping experience at *Camps With Meaning*. While Covid restrictions will impact programming for a second year, CWM has been busy preparing for day camps at various locations in Manitoba. Our regular AMC donations to Mennonite Church Manitoba contributes to this ministry by providing staff remuneration, camperships and resources so that children of all ages might be blessed by an experience of acceptance and love this summer. Thank you again for supporting all 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

- **Work on the front stairs and wheelchair ramp is continuing.** 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**

- **MCI is hiring a Head of Maintenance.** This position is responsible to ensure that all physical aspects of MCI's fourteen-acre campus are well maintained, often using a hands-on approach. This includes our academic wing, Buhler Hall, and student dormitory. Know someone who would be a good fit? Encourage them to apply today by emailing [ryanpotter@mciblues.net](mailto:ryanpotter@mciblues.net)

- **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).

- **Visit the Villages Tractor Trek is in its 14th year** as a signature fund-raising event for Eden Foundation. The ride this year was scheduled for Saturday July 10th but has been re-scheduled to Saturday October 2nd. The present health limitations make gathering together before, during and after the ride just too difficult, so we're rescheduling to the later date. The later date is going to allow us to take advantage of the government's relaxation of the requirements that are so very restrictive right now. If numbers continue to drop in our Southern Health region, we are being promised a return to something that almost appears "normal".

- **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. Due to public health restrictions, the event has been rescheduled to July 7 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>

- **Camps with Meaning invites applications for the Head of Maintenance position at Camp Assiniboia.** This is a full-time, permanent position with potential housing at the camp. [Find the job description on the Camps with Meaning website.](#)

- **Camps with Meaning invites applications for the Summer Head Cook position at Camp Assiniboia.** This summer position supports the summer camping ministry. [Find the job description on the Camps with Meaning website.](#)

- **Join the "Ring up the Cash" Camps with Meaning Covid Relief Campaign.** We are expecting a concerning deficit this year. Donate and/or join the campaign. Visit our special campaign site to learn more and participate: [ringupthecash.causevox.com](http://ringupthecash.causevox.com)