

## **Prayers for the World**

### **- MKC postpones assembly due to security reasons**

Meserete Kristos Church president Desalegn Abebe asks for prayer for peace in Ethiopia. Due to security problems in the northern and western parts of the country, the MKC General Assembly planned for late August is now postponed. Pray for church leaders that continue to visit and encourage the church in various regions of the country.

### **- Annual AIMM meetings planned for October**

Please pray for the annual meetings of Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission planned for October in Burkina Faso and Congo. Pray that COVID-19 restrictions and visa requirements will allow leaders to gather, to encourage each other and learn together.

### **- Ongoing struggle in Minnesota against Canadian pipeline development**

- More than 600 people have been arrested or received citations over protests amid growing opposition to the Line 3, a proposed oil sands pipeline expansion by Enbridge to bring Alberta tar sands oil to Wisconsin, through wetlands and the treaty territory of Anishinaabe peoples, through the Mississippi River headwaters to the shore of Lake Superior. Native American tribes and Indigenous-led environmental organizations such as [Honor the Earth](#) are leading opposition efforts in court and on the ground.

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

## **The Wall Hanging – Africa and Music**

This wall hanging was created by Vivian Nkomo, friend of Harry Wiens. I asked for “something with instruments” since Loren and I were both music teachers at the time. I love the joyous energy of Vivian’s work!

## **From The Pastor:**

There is much anxiousness around back-to-school this year. Tension runs high as divergent views and opinions make for many ‘line-in-the-sand’ situations. I found this prayer by Ted Loder helpful in these trying times.

O God, gather me now

to be with you

as you are with me.

Soothe my tiredness;

quiet my fretfulness;

relieve my compulsiveness;

let me be easy for a moment.

O Lord, release me

from the fears and guilts

which grip me so tightly;

from the expectations and opinions

which I so tightly grip,

that I may be open

to receiving what you give,

to risking something genuinely new,

to learning something refreshingly different.

O God, gather me

to be with you

as you are with me.

Amen

### **Altona Mennonite Church**

#### **Vision**

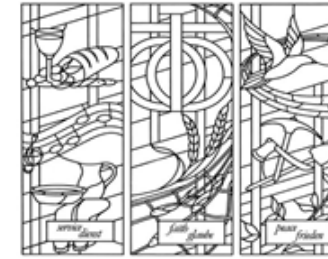
*God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace so that God’s healing and hope flow through us to the world.*

#### **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.*



# Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LX No.37

September 12, 2021

Prelude

VT #10

Here In This Place

Opening Words

One: We bid you welcome  
who come with weary spirit seeking rest.

**All: Who come with troubles that are too much with you, who come hurt and afraid**

One: We bid you welcome who come with hope in your heart.

**All: Who come with anticipation in your step, who come proud and joyous.**

One: We bid you welcome who are seekers of new faith.

**All: Who come to probe and explore, who come to learn.**

One: We bid you welcome who enter this place as a homecoming.

**All: Who have found here room for your spirit, who find in this people a home.**

One: Whoever you are,  
whatever you are,  
wherever you are on your journey,  
we bid you welcome.

— from the Brevard Episcopal Mission Order of Service,  
the **Worship Well** website. <http://www.theworshipwell.org/>

Psalms 150

Prayer of Praise VT #886

#### **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

Email address: [altonamennonite@gmail.com](mailto:altonamennonite@gmail.com)

Website: [altonamennonitechurch.ca](http://altonamennonitechurch.ca)

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

*Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.*

VT #95 Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah, st. 1,3  
Sharing Susie Fisher  
VT#797 We Are People of God's Peace

Sharing Ray Hamm  
VT #778 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant  
Praying Together  
VT #386 One Is the Body

Sharing Marlene Plett, Margruite Krahn  
VT #816 Guide My Feet  
Offering

Closing Words  
VT #36 Let Us Build a House

Worship Leader: Andrea Hildebrand  
Musicians: Marilyn Houser Hamm, Marlene Wiebe  
Sound Booth: Kevin Neufeld

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

Sept. 19 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group  
11:00 am Worship Service

*Theme:* Living with Opposition *Scripture:* Luke 9:51-56; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25 *Speaker(s):* Pastor Dan Kehler  
*Worship Leader:* Elaine Loewen *Musicians:* Loren Brault, Gina Enns *Sound Booth:* Dale Klassen

Sept. 26 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group  
11:00 am Worship Service with Communion

October 3 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group  
11:00 am Worship Service

**Birthdays:** Sept. 16 – Breanne Heinrichs; Sept. 17 – Kerry Enns; Sept. 18 – Bill Loewen

#### **AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Coffee On Sunday morning!** Dave Regehr and Pastor Dan will be leading a discussion/study group before the service. Please consider joining this time of fellowship and discovery.

- After discussion and much prayer, the Formation Committee has decided to postpone Sunday School classes due to current COVID restrictions, uncertainties of COVID this fall, and lack of Sunday School teachers. AMC would potentially have 12 Sunday School students for the 2021-2022 year. The

Formation Committee feels this might be a time for the AMC community to contemplate new ways of moving forward with Christian Education at AMC.

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

Part of AMC's giving supports Mennonite Church Canada's program Company of 1000. This ministry is administered in consultation with Church Leadership Ministers. Company of 1000 is a Study Reserve Fund that supports the training of pastors for the congregations of Mennonite Church Canada. Money from the fund is used to reduce the personal cost of preparation for ministry and to encourage pastors and pastoral candidates to attend preferred schools through the granting of forgivable loans and tuition grants. Like many pastors in MCM, Pastor Dan applied for and received forgivable loans as he studied at AMBS and CMU in preparation for ministry that were reduced annually based on pastoral employment in an MCM congregation.

Of course, we also have AMC bills to pay and salaries to honour, even while we have been apart. Fortunately, AMC has received generous Bridge grants, totalling \$20,000. To put this into perspective, our other Revenues are lower than usual, and even in normal times we are often up to, or exceeding our maximum line of credit by this time of the year. This year we are just nearing our line of credit for the first time.

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**

- **Join an MCM Gratitude Group.** Every second week for six weeks on Zoom. 40 minutes of joining others in encouragement and sharing gratitude. This is led by Laura Funk, MCM Spiritual Director-in-Residence. For more info see [www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events](http://www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events)

- **Gardens on 10<sup>th</sup> Drive – Thru Mexican Fiesta Fundraiser** – Tuesday, September 28, 5-7 pm. See bulletin board for details.

- **Xplore: At the Intersection of Faith and Life, A 55-Plus Enrichment Program.** Xplore offers courses that investigate dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it. All without any assignments or examinations! Xplore happens in a six-week block, with online courses offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, beginning October 5. Join us! [cmu.ca/xplore](http://cmu.ca/xplore).

- **Pack a Bucket of Thanks with MCC this fall.** Fill a bucket with essential relief supplies and help support vulnerable families impacted by emergency and disaster. Learn more at [mccmb.ca/buckets-thanks](http://mccmb.ca/buckets-thanks).

- **Whose Land, Whose Promise? Palestine, Justice, and the Bible** - Mennonite Church Canada Palestine-Israel Network and three partner advocacy groups are hosting a two-part online series Saturday, Sept. 19 and Oct. 2, at 12 p.m. EDT /9 a.m. PST. Resource persons include Palestinian pastor-theologian Alex Awad, political science professor Ron Dart, and professor Dan Epp-Tiessen of CMU. Register: <https://bit.ly/3BbaFOc>.

#### **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

- Pray for Ken Penner who moved to Tabor Home in Morden in June. Carol has moved south of Neuberghthal for the year.  
- Pray for Jean Tarnick and family as they move forward without Mike. The service was Wednesday afternoon.  
- Pray for Ken & Marianne Braun 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 for teachers and students who have returned to school. Pray for a joyful, peaceful, healthy return to this academic year.  
- Please pray for CMU students who are starting their new academic year on September 8, 158 of whom are heading into their first year of studies.  
- 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 MCM Manitoba's Executive Minister.  
- Three permanent positions remain open at Camp Assiniboia. In particular, there is a lot of competition 'in the market' for experienced Food Services staff. This is a crucial position as we slowly restart our rental/hospitality ministry. Please pray that the right people will be guided to these positions. You might be able to facilitate this with some shoulder tapping. Please see the Bulletin Announcements for more info.