

- 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 teachers and students during this school year.
- Pray for all 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

- This week George and Tobia Veith begin speaking and connecting with congregations across Canada every week, giving witness to God's work in the world through the eyes of our Chinese siblings in faith. Pray for strength inspiration and listening ears. If you wish to connect with their schedule, contact jhanson@mennonitechurch.ca.

- Prayer for congregations with Myanmar connections

Please continue to pray for people in Myanmar who experience violence and displacement. Chin Mennonite church leaders in Canada report increasing unrest and violence in many of their home areas, including deaths in their families. May we as their Canadian family reach out in love and support at this very difficult time.

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

"remember the children", a sculpture by Ken Loewen, was created to acknowledge the findings of Indigenous children's graves and the trauma experienced at residential schools.

From The Pastor: A Season of Learning

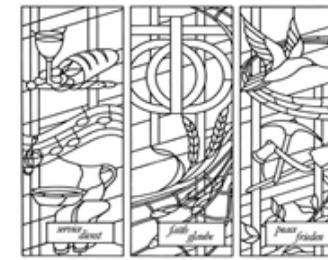
In June of 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) released its final report detailing the history and ongoing legacy of the Indian Residential School system in Canada that operated until 1996. The TRC's final report shares over 6,000 Survivor and witness accounts of the system; it outlines the history of the system, its ongoing impacts on Indigenous Peoples today, and it calls attention to the challenge of Reconciliation in Canada moving forward. One

major aspect of the TRC's final report is the *94 Calls to Action* that offer a roadmap to Reconciliation for Canada to follow. The Honorable Murray Sinclair (Senator ret.) Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada said of the 94 Calls to action.

"My challenge to you is to read the 94 Calls To Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report and pick one that you can work on, that you understand, and that you support - and make it happen. This is not a spectator sport. We need you to be able to bring reconciliation to a reality in this country... we need everyone's participation and everyone's willingness to grow."

As people of faith, reconciliation is at the heart of who we are. "We seek to obey God by working towards peace and reconciliation in the Spirit of Jesus" is one of the guiding principles at AMC. Reconciliation is not a just Canadian issue. Reconciliation is not just an aboriginal matter. Reconciliation is the method by which the God of the universe creates and recreates from an abundance of love, mercy, and justice. Reconciliation is the means by which faith driven hope turns our words into action. Reconciliation is a plan that is big enough not only for Canada but a plan that is big enough to fit the entire universe. When Sinclair says "Reconciliation is not a spectator sport." he is in lock and step with all who profess to be Christian. Sinclair's call is for all Canadians to adopt a willingness to grow. A willingness to grow is also part of what it means to be a people of faith. The Psalmist asks of God, "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long."

This fall our theme is *A Season of Learning*. The revelation of the many children who died scared and alone at residential schools, who were buried in unmarked graves and forgotten, has stirred our nation. Our collective reaction has opened space for all to seek truth in a spirit of reconciliation. We as God's people at AMC also desire to enter this space. To focus our attention in *A Season of Learning* that we might growing in wisdom and understanding is just a small part of the overall work of God in this world. Our prayer in this season of learning comes from the Psalmist, "Show us your ways, O Lord, teach us your paths. Guide us in your truth and teach us, for you are God our Savior, and our hope is in you all day long."



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LX No.43

October 24, 2021

A Season of Learning ***The Story of Naboth - TRC Call to Action #49***

Prelude

Invocation

Hymn VT #182 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Welcome

Announcements

Antiphonal Reading:

God's Power in Creation Job 12:7-13

Leader: But ask the animals,

People: and they will teach you,

Leader: or the birds in the sky,

People: and they will tell you;

Leader: or speak to the earth, and it will teach you,

People: or let the fish in the sea inform you.

Leader: Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this?

People: In God's hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

Leader: Does not the ear test words as the tongue tastes food?

People: Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?

Leader: To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding belong to God.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:8-15

AMC Contact information:

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Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 am to Noon

Secretary: Lori Hiebert: C: 204-324-5952

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

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Scripture Reading: I Kings 21, Leviticus 25:23-28
Children are invited to the Worship activity table.

Offering
Meditative Poem: This Morning I Pray for My Enemies
by Joy Harjo*
Hymn VT #759 Take My Life, and Let It Be
Sermon Ancestral Stewardship and Real Estate Deals
Pastor Dan Kehler
Hymn VT #146 Lord Jesus, Come and Overturn
Prayer for the People
Hymn VT #705 For the Healing of the Nations
Benediction
Postlude

* Joy Harjo is an American poet, musician, playwright, and author. She is the incumbent United States Poet Laureate, the first Native American to hold that honor.

Worship Leader: Marlene Wiebe
Musicians: Loren Braul, Elaine Loewen
Recording Technician: Nathan Loewen

TRC Call to Action #49

We call upon all religious denominations and faith groups who have not already done so to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and *terra nullius*.

Unmarked Graves

The voices of the children cry.
Their anguish echoes on the canyons of time.
Alone but not abandoned,
Torn from the arms of love,
Unprotected but not forgotten.
Hurting but cherished by tender hearts.
"Come home," whispers the wind,
To the woodland tipis:
The earth: the floor,
The walls: the sky,
Down trails to the Spirit washed
With the flow of eternal tears.

I wrote this poem so that the children will know that their parents did not abandon them. The floor of the tipi represents the earth on which we live, the walls represent the sky, and the poles represent the trails that extend from the earth to the spirit world.
Marlene Wiebe, July 2021

Worship & Meeting Events at AMC

October 31 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group
11:00 am Worship Service

Membership Meeting to follow service

Theme: A Season of Learning – Spirituality *Speaker:* Ray Hamm *Scripture:* Psalm 46 *Worship Leader:* Lori Hiebert
Musicians: Loren & Lori Hiebert *Recording:* Loren Braul
Nov. 7 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group
11:00 am Worship Service – Peace Sunday
Nov. 10 7:30 pm Leadership Council Meeting
Nov. 14 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group
11:00 am Worship Service
Nov. 21 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group
11:00 am Worship Service.

Birthdays: October 24 – Norma Thiessen; October 28 – Keiran Enns; October 30 – Layton Heinrichs

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We would like to thank our church family for all their support during the last 2 years of dad's life and after his death. Your support of Phone calls, visits, and prayers were greatly appreciated during a difficult time. Thank you to everyone who made pies and coffee, Loren & Lori for the music, Dale Klassen for running the video and sound and thank you to Dan Kehler for guiding us through this difficult time. Bless you all for your loving kindness. Jean Tarnick and family

- Steven Wiebe would be happy to help you with raking leaves. If you want to hire him, email wiebesteven6@gmail.com or text 204-304-6894.

- From the treasurer:

Our Treasurer announcements in the past months have been highlighting various aspects of the work we do together with other Manitoba and Canadian Churches. Participating in these areas of mission, along with supporting our own congregation, is our privilege and responsibility. At the end of September it's time to forward our 3rd Quarter gifts to our Conference and Affiliates. As of Sept. 23 we need almost \$5,000 to fulfill that responsibility. Thank you for all your generous donations. Your personal giving records to the end of September will be in your church mailboxes in October.

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, or send or bring a cheque to AMC (Box 1237, Altona, R0G 0B0)
- Also, your giving records to date are in your mailboxes. Contact Norma if you have any questions.

WIDER COMMUNITY & MISC. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us for this year's **J.J.Thiessen Lectures on October 26-27**. Dr. Edith M. Humphrey will provide three lectures in a series on "Mediation and the Immediate God". Dr. Humphrey is the William F. Orr Professor Emerita of New Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. *This year, the lecture series will be held entirely online, through Zoom.* Visit cmu.ca/jjt for more information and for the link to join.

- **Woven (Mennonite Women MB) is kicking off another Woven Wednesday Series**, Knowing Circle, on Wednesday **Oct.27th at 8pm**. This series is hosted by Tina Fehr Kehler and on Wednesday our guest, Lilli Williams, will introduce us to and engage us in the use of Mandalas as a spiritual practice. Join us and have your pencil crayons/crayons/pastels and some 8 1/2"x 11" paper ready for your participation. Link to Zoom Room on Woven Facebook Page or email kgiesbrecht@mennochurch.mb.ca

- **HandiVan Soup & Pie** – November 15, 4 – 7 pm at the Altona Senior Center. We need to provide 4 pails of borscht and 3 cookie sheet apple pies. See list in the lobby to sign up.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Steven Wiebe is requesting prayer for him and his family. He is very concerned about Emily and how she lives with her disability. Also the family is still going through emotional struggles at the loss of Tim.

- Jerry Rempel, Sylvia Klassen's brother from Carberry, had two strokes at the end of August. He is still quite weak, and emotional at times, and his swallowing and balance are not yet back to where they should be. But things are slowly improving each day. The doctors say he should make a full recovery, but it will take time. Jerry and his wife Connie thank you for your prayers.

- Pray for Carol Penner and family.

- Pray for Jean Tarnick and family.

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

- Ken Hamm is doing well at home, and is grateful.