

"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.

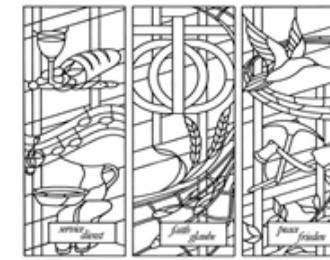
### From The Pastor: A Season of Learning

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.44

October 31, 2021

## *A Season of Learning Stories of Spiritual Practice*

Prelude

Acknowledgement of Treaty One Land

Sharing Activities of the Church

Welcome

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Hymn VT #495 Morning Has Broken

Scripture: Psalm 46

Hymn VT #197 God's Glory Fills the Heavens

\*

Hymn VT #130 Schönster Herr Jesu (Beautiful Savior)

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Scripture: Genesis 14:17-20; Matthew 8:5-13

Hymn VT #412 My Soul Cries Out

Message Spirituality, Tobacco and Pipes - "Mutually Transformative Relationships" Ray Hamm

Congregational Prayer

Hymn VT #387 We Are One in the Spirit

Benediction \*

Postlude

*Please stay for the Congregational Meeting after the service.*

\* Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address – Greetings to the Natural World

### 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.*

Worship Leader: Lori Hiebert  
Musicians: Loren & Lori Hiebert  
Recording Technician: Loren Braul

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

#### **Membership Meeting to follow service**

Nov. 7      10:00 am    Coffee and Discussion Group  
              11:00 am    Worship Service – Peace Sunday

*Theme:* A Season of Learning – Grasslands, God, and others  
(TRC Call to Action #64) *Speaker:* Dan Kehler *Scripture:*  
Psalm 19:1-6, Mark 6:42-47, Luke 5:15-16, Matthew 6:26-30  
*Worship Leader:* Norma Thiessen *Musicians:* Dave & Hildie  
Regehr *Recording:* Kevin Neufeld

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.  
Nov. 22     Decorating for Advent – time TBA  
Nov. 28     First Advent Sunday

**Birthdays:** November 3 – Don Wiebe, Rebekah Krahn Hare;  
November 5 – Laura Geirnaert

### **AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

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 e-transfer to [amchurchdonations@gmail.com](mailto: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. The latest financial statements were emailed.

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

- **The Mennonite Community Orchestra** presents "Prairie Sunrise" on November 14 at 3:00 PM at the Lutheran Church of the Cross (560 Arlington St., Winnipeg). Enjoy a variety of CMU and community musicians under the direction of Andrea Bell. For ticket, vaccination, and livestreaming information visit [mennonitecommunityorchestra.wordpress.com](http://mennonitecommunityorchestra.wordpress.com). The concert includes a piece written by Anna Schwartz.

- Rick Neufeld, Director of Leadership Ministries, has announced that he will retire effective March 31, 2022. Rick has been in this position for 6.5 years and has served in pastoral ministry within MCM for 34 years. We are grateful for his many years of service to the churches and pastors of Mennonite Church Manitoba!

#### **-Inter-Mennonite Chaplaincy Association AGM.**

Interested in learning how the Menno Office is supporting university students during the pandemic? Join us online for our annual general meeting *Tuesday, November 9, 2021* at noon. Contact Scott Kroeker ([imca.chair@gmail.com](mailto:imca.chair@gmail.com)) for the link. For more information about IMCA, visit [mennooffice.ca](http://mennooffice.ca).

### **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. Since then, each week has gotten better. He is generally stronger, and his swallowing, walking and dizziness have much improved. He is now in the process of trying to get his driver's licence back. Jerry and his wife Connie thank everyone for all the prayers on their behalf.

- 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.

- 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**

- **Pray for Witness worker's health** - Witness worker Sook Kyoung Park has been experiencing some health issues lately. Pray for her and Bock Ki as they work with doctors in Chuncheon, South Korea, to find causes and treatments.

- **Faithful witness in China** - Please pray for the small groups of Anabaptist believers in China as they develop leadership training and reach out to their neighbours. Praise God for these believers' quiet witness of faithful living.

#### **- AIMM meetings, new leadership in Congo church**

We thank God for the safe travels of Mennonite Church Canada Witness staff, Tany Warkentin, and other partners, to the Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM) meetings in Burkina Faso and the Democratic Republic of Congo in late October. Please pray for the three national Mennonite churches in the DR Congo, one of which has just replaced their whole leadership team. May God guide these leaders to good collaboration in areas where all three churches share similar needs and concerns.

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