

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

- **Ongoing violence in Ethiopia** - As you hear news reports about the increasing violence in Ethiopia, please keep the Meserete Kristos Church in your prayers. This sibling in the global Mennonite World Conference needs our prayers for safety, unity and peace.

- **Palestinians face continued occupation** – consider ways to help - As we approach November 29, the United Nations Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, please pray for all living in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem. In addition to the ill economic and health effects of the pandemic, Palestinians continue to suffer under Israel's military occupation of their lands through home evictions, demolition of homes and orchards, incarceration of children as young as 12 and the killing and injuring of protesters. Please pray that Israeli leaders respect rights and freedoms for all, and consider giving fair-trade Palestinian products this Christmas. Visit <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/pin> for more information.

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.

"Loose the Chains of Injustice" a space for reflection – a call to peacebuilding

The words of Jesus in Luke 4:18-19 speak the heart of his ministry and the heart of the ministry of the Church that carries the presence of Jesus in the world:

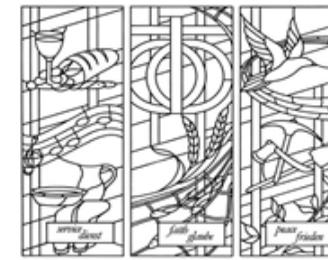
*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor;
to proclaim release to the captives,
recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord."*

For the coming weeks a space has been created in the church foyer for reflection and prayer as we continue to seek the path forward to live in Truth & Reconciliation.

The art installation, "Loose the Chains of Injustice," by Ken Loewen, both guide, and open a path to deeper reflection and prayer. You are invited to come prior to the Sunday morning worship service, or at other times during the week. Let this space, as it echoes Jesus' reference to Isaiah 58, prepare us for the coming season of Advent. God is with us, and God calls us to be a people of shalom in our world.

From The Pastor: A Season of Learning

While our fall theme *A Season of Learning* is drawing to a close, the ongoing work of Reconciliation remains. The search for the forgotten children of Residential Schools continues as more land is searched for unmarked graves. We are mindful and pray for all who are still in the fearful grip of the aftermath of violent colonisation. During this *Season of Learning* we have grown in wisdom and understanding; we have joined in a small part of the overall work of God in this world. Our prayers in this season of learning have borne fruit, "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." Our task as ones who believe in the God of love is to continue to seek truth in a spirit of reconciliation. We need to be always present in the humble space of learning, for this is where true wisdom arises. We need to continue to be gentle with our neighbours, have a passion for truth, and pray for the courage to call out racism, prejudice and discrimination in all its forms. And at all times seek to know the earth and its inhabitants as 'all our relations' so that we might learn anew how to be agents of peace in the web of life that is held together by the Great Mystery of love.



Altona Mennonite Church

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

VOLUME LX No.46

November 14, 2021

A Season of Learning

Prelude

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn VT #555 Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly Longing

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn VT #636 Spirit, Open My Heart

September 30th Reflection

Scripture: Micah 6:1-8

All: He has showed you, O man, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

And to walk humbly with your God.

Hymn VT #776 Teach Me Thy Truth

Sermon Kerry Saner-Harvey

Hymn VT #771 We Have Been Sent by God

Congregational Prayer

Hymn VT #809 Sing a New World into Being

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Leader: Margruike Krahn

Musicians: Marilyn Houser Hamm, Sylvia Klassen

Recording Technician: Dale Klassen

AMC Contact information:

Pastor: Dan Kehler amcpastordan@gmail.com 204-324-6773

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

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

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Website: altonamennonitechurch.ca

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

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

We welcome Kerry Saner-Harvey to our service today. Kerry is the Indigenous Neighbours Program Coordinator for MCC Manitoba. Kerry's work in the Indigenous Neighbours Program aims to facilitate relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people towards reconciliation and strategies for justice. He has been in his current position since August 2016. In the past, Kerry has worked with First Nations youth in Cranberry Portage, Manitoba, did restorative justice, community-building and advocacy work for MCC Newfoundland and Labrador and served as a Peace Advisor for MCC Bangladesh supporting peacebuilding opportunities.

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS AT AMC

Nov. 21 10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group
11:00 am Worship Service.

Theme: A Season of Learning – What Would Zacchaeus Do?
TRC #92 Speaker: Pastor Dan Kehler *Scripture:* Deuteronomy 24:17-21; Psalm 146; Micah 6:6-8; Luke 19:1-10
Worship Leader: Elaine Loewen *Musicians:* Dave & Hildie Regehr
Recording: Nathan Loewen

Nov. 22 **Decorating for Advent – time TBA**

Nov. 23 7:30 pm Leadership Council

Nov. 28 First Advent Sunday
10:00 am Coffee and Discussion Group
11:00 am Worship Service

Birthdays: Nov. 15 – Dale Klassen; Nov. 16 – Loren Brault;

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Update on the contact information for Don & Ang Enns:

Don – 204-324-4320 tallgrass_farm@yahoo.ca

Ang – 204-324-4046 ang_enns@yahoo.ca

No more land line.

- The Central Manitoba Youth Choir has released a video in lieu of their annual fall tour. The first song "Ambe" is written by Andrew Balfour, a Winnipeg-based composer of Cree descent. Loren Hiebert is the accompanist. The link is: <https://youtu.be/JcLbPJ-SG00>

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 info visit mennonitecommunityorchestra.wordpress.com.

The concert includes a piece written by Anna Schwartz.

- **Break the Bank-uet 2. Camps with Meaning Online Fundraising Event.** November 14, 2021. 7:00pm. Join camp staff for music, updates, a celebration of Summer 2021 ministry, and of course, breaking the bank. www.campswithmeaning.org/banquet

- **Find the perfect locally-made gift at the Christmas Craft and Quilt Sale for MCC!** Shop and support MCC's sewing kits and material resources. **Saturday, November 27, 9:00am – 4:00pm** at Bethel Mennonite Church, 465 Stafford St, Winnipeg. All COVID-19 protocols apply, masks and proof of vaccination required.

- **Prepare the Way! Advent Afternoon @ Assiniboia**

You are invited to bring your friends and family to Camp Assiniboia for an afternoon of harp music, singing, drama, and more. Saturday, Dec. 4th, 1 pm - 4 pm. More info to follow soon.

- **The Rhineland Empty Stocking Fund** is now accepting referrals for Christmas Hampers. These referrals can be called in to 204-324-7167. When calling in referrals please have the following information: name of referral, number of children in the family with age and gender of child, physical address, mailing address and phone number. Deadline for referrals is noon on December 10. Just a friendly reminder that the referrals must live in the R.M. of Rhineland. Donations can be hand delivered to Pembina Valley Pharmacy, Access Credit Union - Gretna, Altona or Plum Coulee locations or by mailing the donation to Rhineland Empty Stocking Fund, Box 2255, Altona, MB R0G 0B0.

- **MCI is hiring a part-time Prep Cook** to start immediately. For more information on the job duties and requirements, please visit or contact Ryan Potter, Director of Finance, at ryanpotter@mciblues.net

- **November 30 is Giving Tuesday.** MCI invites you to contribute to their Dormitory Lounge ReFresh. It was built in 1993 and needs some renovation after 3 decades of students have made the space their home.

- **Visit MCI's Facebook page** to see a "day in the life" at MCI.

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.

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

- 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. The changing restrictions make it difficult to create a learning environment.

- 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.

- MCI has 4 International students waiting for VISAS to come to Canada to study. They request prayers for this.