

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Pray for Erika Enns Rodine, Josh, Freya and Sigga.
- We pray for the seniors in our congregation: Marianne Braun who is at Eastview; Jean Tarnick who is in her suite at Gardens on Tenth Manor, Bill Loewen at The Gardens, Harry & Susan Klassen at Golden West, Marlene Plett at Katherina Courts and others who are not named.
- We pray for those who are grieving.
- We pray for those whose mental health and physical health make employment and daily life a struggle.
- We pray for the family care-givers.
- We pray for those in transition/who have moved to a new home.

Prayers for Our Community

- Pray for all teachers and students as they learn and teach.
- Pray for all the Health Care Providers.
- Pray for the church leaders at all levels of our conference.
- Pray for MCI.

Prayers for the World

Responding to the Palestine and Israel conflict

As conflict has escalated in the region, MCC laments the violence and mourns all lives lost in Palestine and Israel. MCC remains committed to a just peace for all, and we invite you to join us in praying for an end to the violence.

MCC is planning an emergency response to the current crisis with existing partners. Our response will focus on the humanitarian needs in Gaza, given the vulnerability of the population and lack of resources available to families. MCC's work will build on previous responses to the ongoing conflict, including the distribution of food and bedding. We are also planning to offer trauma healing support and housing reconstruction. If you feel led to give, you can do so at mcc.org/Palestine-Israel.

- Pray for Ukraine.

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

From the Pastor

Greetings, AMC! I am away this weekend, attending a theological conference in Minneapolis with several fellow MCM pastors. I hope you are well! We had no idea when planning for this Sunday that conflict and violence in the Middle East conflict would become so enflamed. We are shocked and saddened at the news coming out of Gaza, Israel & Palestine. I don't even know how to respond, really, other than to say, *Kyrie Eleison – Lord, have mercy.*

I came across a short prayer offered by a minister in the Episcopal Church in Washington state just a few days ago, and I found it helpful - giving me words that can be offered up when the feeling of hopelessness prevails. I'm including the short address to her diocese that precedes the prayer. I can only credit the minister's first name, which is Melissa.

Greetings,

It's with humility that I offer you words and a prayer related to the horrific situation in Israel, Gaza, and the entire Middle East.

The violent, shocking October 7 attack on Israel, including the taking of hostages, was an unspeakable act. The oppression, terrorizing, and targeting of innocent civilians – Israelis or Palestinians – recently or in the past – is wrong.

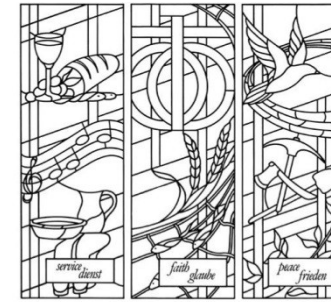
At the same time (and I will speak just for myself here), the history, the political dynamics, and the religious circumstances within and among those in the region are complex and fraught beyond my comprehension – though I am doing my best to comprehend them.

And so, I offer you this brief prayer for now, a prayer I will be praying daily.

Loving and liberating Creator, send your healing Spirit upon all involved in the current conflict and violence in the Middle East. Comfort those who mourn or who have been harmed by brutality. Stand with those who are fearful. Protect and provide for the powerless and the vulnerable. Inspire a spirit of forbearance and understanding within all and uphold those who even now work for a just and durable peace. In the name of Christ. Amen.

From the website for the Episcopal Church in Western Washington (ecww.org)

Along with offering prayers for the people, the suffering, violence and destruction in the Middle East, we pray this week for our siblings in Christ at Morden Mennonite Church. We ask that they would be strengthened and encouraged as they seek to be faithful representatives of God's Kingdom in their community.



Altona Mennonite Church

Worship Service 11:00 am

VOLUME LXII No.37

October 15, 2023

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

Gathering In the Need to Praise

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship VT#1043

Hymn VT#10 Here in This Place

Prayer of Invocation

Hearing the Word;

Hearing the Voices Who Cry Out to be Heard

Hymn VT#168 Peace to You

Scripture Readings– Isaiah 58 HWB#830;

Romans 15:24b-29; 2 Corinthians 8:13-15

"Solidarity in Times of Suffering" – Byron & Melita Burkholder

Responding in Lament

Sung Prayer – VT#711 Ya Rab as-salami/ God of Peace & Justice

Prayer of Lament – Insert Side A.

Sung Prayer – Reprise VT#711

AMC Contact information:

Pastor: Rev. Erika Enns Rodine C: 204-963-5764

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Moderator: Loren Brault: C: 204-995-5347

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

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

Responding in Solidarity

Offering VT#675 Abana alathi (Abana in Heaven)
Praying and Time of Sharing
Hymn VT#808 Between Darkness and Light

Sending

Hymn VT#712 Beauty for Brokenness, st. 1,2,3,5
Passing the Peace
Hymn VT#707 Dona nobis pacem
Benediction

Worship Leader: Ray Hamm
Musicians: Loren Braul, Marilyn Houser Hamm
Technician: Nathan Loewen

Byron and Melita Rempel-Burkholder are members of Home Street Mennonite Church and live in Winnipeg. They first travelled to Palestine-Israel in 2016, serving as volunteers with Bethlehem Bible College for three months. This experience compelled them to get involved in promoting a just peace in that region and amplifying the voices of the Palestinian people, especially of the Christian minority. They helped form the Palestine-Israel Network of Mennonite Church Canada, which Byron currently chairs. Earlier this year, Byron and Melita returned to the Israeli-occupied West Bank to renew acquaintances with the people and the situation. From January to April, they were based mainly in Israeli-occupied East Jerusalem, where they helped with Mennonite Central Committee's documentation of humanitarian and peace projects. They were also able to spend 10 days in Hebron with Community Peacemaker Teams and visit a variety of church leaders and Palestinian and Israeli human rights activists in East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Israel.

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS AT AMC

Oct. 22 – 11:00 am Worship Service
Theme: Stories That Shape Us – Abram & Sarai / A Promised Child *Speaker:* Erika Enns Rodine *Worship Leader:* Susie Fisher *Musicians:* Nancy Ratzlaff *Technician:* Loren Braul
Oct. 24 – 4:30 pm Leadership Meeting
Oct. 29 – 11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine
Nov. 5 – 11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine
Nov. 7 – 4:30 pm Formation meeting
Nov. 12 – 11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine

Birthdays: October 21 – Jesse Wiebe; October 22 – Lloyd Wiebe

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Many thanks to Crystal Kehler for her time & work as our Librarian over the past number of years.
- Your giving records till the end of September are in your mailboxes at AMC. Please contact Norma if they don't match your records. Thank you for your continuing contributions to AMC's budget. You may contribute online if you bank at Access Credit Union (using your 7-digit phone number as your account number), make an e-transfer to amchurchdonations@gmail.com, or send a cheque to AMC (Box 1237, Altona, MB, R0G 0B0).
- Are you interested in learning something new or know someone who wants to? **The Sound Booth Technicians** would love to add you to their group! You would be part of a regular rotation. Please contact Kevin Neufeld for information.
- A reminder that the **10:30 am AMC Coffee** sign up sheet is on the wall near the office door. Feel free to volunteer!

WIDER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Rhineland Area Food Bank** is in need of **volunteers** for regular once-a-month shifts to serve clients. Hours are Monday mornings, 10 am to 11 am, and evenings, 7 pm to 8 pm. We are also in need of volunteers who are willing to be on the sub list and would be available to sub when called.

If you are interested in volunteering and need more information, please email Hilda Klassen at:

Hildaklassen28@gmail.com

- **The Gardens on Tenth Annual General Meeting** will be held Thursday, October 26th at 7:00 PM in The Gardens MPR. Your Board representative will be looking for delegates to represent your church so please talk to him/her if you are interested.

- **November 3rd - MCI's Soup & Pie and Fall Concert!** Come for soup, buns and pie from 5:30-7:00 in the gymnasium, and stay for our fall concert, What Wonderful Love is This, at 7:30 in Buhler Hall with performances by MCI's students. Meal is by donation. We look forward to seeing you there!

- **Cottonwood Community Drama** presents, The Tin Woman. **November 23-25**, 7:30 pm at the Buhler Hall in Gretna. Tickets on sale soon at the MCI website.

CONFERENCE or MCC RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **October 27 - J.J. Thiessen Lecture** – You are invited to hear Dr. Willie James Jennings of Yale Divinity School present his talk entitled, Gathering the pieces that remain: Weaving life together from the fragments of faith, race, and land. October 27 at 7:00 PM in Marpeck Commons or via livestream. Visit cmu.ca/jjt for details and livestream.

- **October 27/28 - A Time of Reckoning: Telling the CMU Story** – Join a two-day symposium on October 27 and 28. Featuring short reflections and dialogue with CMU faculty, alumni, and church voices, participants will investigate what CMU is today and where it's going in light of its mission. More details and free registration at cmu.ca/timeofreckoning.

- **October 28 or 29 - Singin' in the Grain** invites you to attend a choral concert in support of the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank**. Featured this year are the Chamber Choir from the Steinbach Regional Secondary School, and the Westgate Mennonite Collegiate Concert Choir. Concert dates are October 28 at 7:00 PM at the Douglas Mennonite Church in Winnipeg, and on October 29 at 3:00 PM at Emmanuel Mennonite in Winkler. Please join us to hear great music.

- **November 4/5 - Camps with Meaning Celebration Banquets**. Join us November 4th @ Emmanuel Church, Winkler and November 5th @ Douglas Mennonite Church, Winnipeg. Contact the camp office to reserve your free spot. camps@mennochurch.mb.ca, 204-895-2267

- **November 11 - Returning Wealth: Land Reparations and the Church**. Discerning collective opportunities for relationship healing, land repair, and land return. Keynote: Sarah Augustine; with Elder Rev Stan McKay and local contributors Adele Perry and Shelisa Klassen. 8:45am-4pm Saturday 11 November 2023, Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship. **Register by Nov. 8** - \$10 for students, \$25 for non-students, \$15 for morning online. Contact Melanie Neufeld for more information, mneufeld@mennochurch.mb.ca. For more info and to register: www.mennochurch.mb.ca/returningwealth

- November 17, 7 pm – Recovery of Hope's Sliding Fee Scale Fundraiser at CMU's Laudamus Hall. Admission by donation. Entertainment by Kim Thiessen, Darryl Neustaedter Barg, Jon Gunther; Paul Bergman; The Janzen Boys. See poster on bulletin board.