

- **November 17 - Music for Mental Health is a free fundraising concert at 7 pm**, at Canadian Mennonite University, in the Laudamus Auditorium, with musical performances by Kim Thiessen, Darryl Neustaedter Barg, & Jon Gunther; Paul Bergman; & The Janzen Boys". Funds raised will support the Sliding Fee Scale program, which keeps counselling accessible for low-income individuals, couples, and families.

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

- **Violence in the land we call "Holy"**. Since the October 7 Hamas attack near the Gaza Strip and Israel's crushing military reaction, violence and destruction have escalated in the land we often call "Holy." As we lament the carnage among Israelis and Palestinians, let us also pray for those working for a future that ends the deep and longstanding injustices that lie at the root of the crisis. Go to Mennonite Church Canada Palestine-Israel Network (<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/pin>) for prayers of lament and intercession from PIN and Bethlehem Bible College.

- Pray for Ukraine.

- Burkino Faso Mennonites meet in the DR Congo

Mennonite leaders in Burkina Faso have decided that the annual Mennonite Partnership Council meetings should not take place in Burkina Faso this year, due to political instability and increasing terrorist attacks in that area. These meetings will take place in the DR Congo on October 25, along with

other Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM) meetings. Continue to pray for the restoration of peace and stability in Burkina Faso and the neighbouring Sahel countries

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

From the Pastor

Greetings, friends!

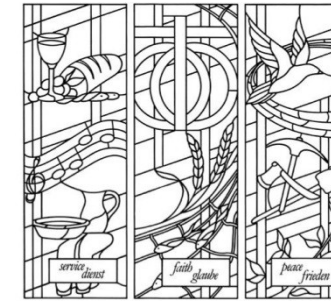
Last weekend I was away at the Evolving Faith conference with a car full of some beloved MCM colleagues. We talked church, shared faith stories, ate together, and expressed both our laments and our dreams for the church. We took in many incredible speakers - from an Indigenous pastor & theologian to a Trans woman who lost her job as CEO of a Christian organization when she came out and now gives public speaking instruction for TED Talks. We took in fiery messages from a LatinX woman and a Black Baptist preacher. We listened to deeply personal stories of pain and heartache. We were schooled in theology and taken. To Church.

I think I got saved multiple times. We sang, we made new ecumenical friends, and we participated in communion on Saturday night. Then the five of us went for supper and ended up at the same pizza joint as the moderator of the United Church of Canada and her colleagues - so we invited them to pull up chairs and we talked theology like old pals!

Sunday morning we got up early and attended a worship service across the street at the Presbyterian church in downtown Minneapolis, and when the woman beside me found out I was a Mennonite pastor from Manitoba she asked me if I knew Rick & Carol Sawatzky.

It was a lot packed into just a few days. I've been given much to think about, and I'm gonna want to rewatch and relisten to some of it! It was my first ever non Mennonite conference, and it was very different from the JJ Thiessen style event I know and love. But it was good for me to be there, to learn from other traditions, hear from different voices, and experience a totally different kind of faith gathering.

This week we pray for Pembina Mennonite Fellowship in Morden. Enliven and strengthen the congregation as they seek to be nurtured in faith and community, relying solely on lay leadership.



Altona Mennonite Church

Worship Service 11:00 am

VOLUME LXII No.38

October 22, 2023

"God's laughable promise"

- Prelude *I will Sing of my Redeemer arr. Bish*
- Welcome & Announcements
- Hymn VT 80 We Sing to You, O God
- Call to Worship
- Hymn VT 618 Sometimes a Light Surprises
- Scripture Reading - from Peace Table Story Bible
- Dramatic Reading
- Offering *Our Father Who art in Heaven Bach*
- Genesis 18:1-14a
- Sermon Erika Enns Rodine
- Hymn VT 190 The God of Sarah Praise
- Sharing & Pastoral Prayer
- Hymn VT 537 Lord, You Sometimes Speak
- Benediction
- Hymn VT 419 Great is Thy Faithfulness
- Postlude

Worship Leader: Susie Fisher

Musicians: Lori Hiebert, Nancy Ratzlaff

Technician: Loren Braul

AMC Contact information:

Pastor: Rev. Erika Enns Rodine C: 204-963-5764
 Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9 am – 4 pm
 Email address: erika.altonamennonite@gmail.com
 Secretary: Lori Hiebert: C: 204-324-5952 Church: 204-324-6773
 Office Hours: Thursday 9:00 am to Noon
 Email address: altonamennonite@gmail.com
 Website: altonamennonitechurch.ca
 Moderator: Loren Braul: C: 204-995-5347
 Custodians: Dale Klassen 204-324-7458 Sandra Klassen 204-324-1475
Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS AT AMC

Oct. 24 – 4:30 pm Leadership Meeting
Oct. 29 – 11:00 am Worship Service Theme: Stories That Shape Us – Jacob and Esau Speaker: Erika Enns Rodine
Worship Leader: Greg Costen Musicians: Mary Costen, Marilyn Houser Hamm Technician: Dale Klassen
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
Nov. 19 – Joint service at Altona United Church

Birthdays: October 24 – Norma Thiessen

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!
- **Canadian Mennonite subscriptions:** All who attend AMC may receive a subscription. The biweekly magazine is delivered by mail and email. Subscriptions are paid for collectively through our conference and by donation. To start a new subscription or to change your delivery preferences, please contact Lori Hiebert by Nov. 8.

A note from Margruite Krahn:

I want to thank you for your interest and financial support of the Food Share Co op at Friendship Manor. This November the program will have run a full year, and I can report that it has been a success. Currently nine tenants are paying a share of \$5 or \$10 a month, and one tenant who is now fully

employed, continues to contribute \$10 a month in support. We (Tenant Advisory and tenants) are grateful for your support, along with Altona IGA, Kroeker Potato in Winkler, and Pioneer Meats. With everyone's support, we are able to offer weekly- a package of meat (sausage, hamburger, steak, or chicken), bananas, potatoes, carrots, onions, cooking oil and laundry detergent as needed. The tenants also receive one or two additional items based on sales. I also want to add that most Thursdays we meet at 10:30 in the Friendship Manor commons for coffee and desert. You are welcome to join us. If you are interested in supporting the project into the next year, please contact me at margruitekrahn@gmail.com.

WIDER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Share the warmth** – If you have gently used winter items to share, or are in need of winter gear, check out The Community Exchange, 116 Main St, Altona, Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4 pm.
- **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!
- **November 6 - CARE Handivan is holding a DRIVE THRU fundraiser** at Altona Senior Centre 4-6 pm. We would like to thank AMC for your generous contributions of food and volunteer time for the past 25 years. We recognize that many changes have happened during the COVID years and going forward we will hold alternative fundraisers. We appreciate your support in our new chapter.
- **November 18 – Friends of the Mennonite Centre in Ukraine** are hosting a Music and Dessert Evening at 7 pm at Douglas Mennonite Church, 1517 Rothesay St. Winnipeg. Donations will be graciously received and receipted. See poster for further details.
- **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 5, 3 pm - The Mennonite Community Orchestra** presents a concert entitled "The Power of Hope" which includes a "Tribute to Ukraine". Works by Skoryk, Lysenko and Silvestrov will be included at the Lutheran Church of the Cross, 560 Arlington St. For tickets and other information, visit mennonitecommunityorchestra.ca
- **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