

On this last Sunday of the church year

We remember those who passed in the last 12 months:

Ken Braun, age 80
Cornelius Elias, age 77
Ellen Krahn, age 73
Victor Penner, age 96
Jake Rempel, age 78
Rick Schmidt, age 68
Lillian Stobbe, age 73

David Campbell, age 81
Abe Friesen, age 83
Valerie Pankratz, age 60
Dianne Rempel, age 74
Sarah Sawatzky, age 92
Charissa Stobbe, age 52

and those forever in our hearts:

Hazel Jean Fisher (nee McLean), age 87
Ian Robert Fisher, age 93
Menno Friesen, age 72
Jake Heppner, age 80
Maureen Bernadette Johnstone (nee Cancilla), age 36
Ronald Duncan Johnstone, age 77
Erica Jean Klassen, age 19
Pete Klassen, age 80
Anne Loewen, age 81
Gord Martel, age 62
Margaret Loewen Reimer, age 71
John Schellenberg, age 71
Reine Schwartz, age 64
Rod Stoesz, age 73
Timothy Wiebe, age 59

From the Pastor

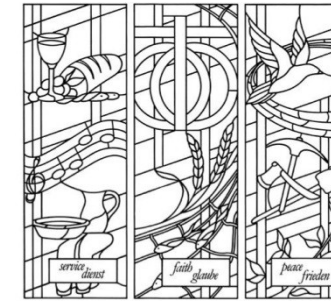
- This week we pray for Prairie Mennonite Fellowship in Crystal City. PMF is the amalgamation of two congregations (Crystal City Mennonite Church and Trinity Mennonite Fellowship in Mather) that officially joined together into Prairie Mennonite Fellowship in 2020. We give thanks for the coming together of God's people, and the commitment to being a unified community of faith when so often we hear about divisions. May God bless Prairie Mennonite Fellowship and grant them unity as they worship and fellowship as one body.

Song of Miriam by Rabbi Ruth Sohn

I, Miriam stand at the sea
and turn to face the desert
stretching endless and still.
My eyes are dazzled
The sky brilliant blue
Sunburnt sands unyielding white.
My hands turn to dove wings.
My arms reach for the sky
and I want to sing the song rising inside me.
My mouth open I stop.
Where are the words?
Where the melody?
In a moment of panic
My eyes go blind.
Can I take a step
Without knowing a
Destination?
Will I falter
Will I fail
Will the ground sink away from under me?
The song still unformed
How can I sing?

To take the first step -
To sing a new song -
Is to close one's eyes
and dive into unknown waters,
For a moment knowing nothing risking all -
But then to discover

The waters are friendly
The ground is firm.
And the song -
the song rises again.
Out of my mouth come words lifting the wind.
And I hear for the first
the song that has been in my heart
silent unknown even to me.



Altona Mennonite Church

Worship Service 11:00 am

VOLUME LXII No.42

November 26, 2023

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn VT 22 What Is This Place

Call to Worship VT 851

Prayer of Invocation

Formal acknowledgement of farewell to Marlene Wiebe and Steven Wiebe

Memorial Sunday Litany VT 920

Lighting of Memory Candles

Hymn VT 612 When Pain or Sorrow / Hold On

Offering

Bible Story Reading 1 – Brave Midwives

Hymn VT 208 With Mary Sing Magnificat

Bible Story Reading 2 – Baby in a Basket

Video – Song of Miriam

Meditation – Erika Enns Rodine

Hymn VT 571 O God, We Read the Holy Law,
sung to VT 421

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Hymn VT 849 We, Your People, Sing Your Praises

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 Leader: Elaine Loewen
Musicians: Lori & Loren Hiebert
Technician: Loren Braul

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS AT AMC

December 2 – 1 – 4 pm – Decorating for Advent – see below
December 3 – 11:00 Worship Service with Communion
Theme: How will we know?...How long? *Scripture:* Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
Speaker: Erika Enns Rodine *Worship Leader:* Ang Enns
Musicians: Gina Enns, Edna Zacharias *Technician:* Dale Klassen
Dec. 10 – 11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine
Dec. 17 – 11:00 am Worship Service
Dec. 24 – 11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine
- 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 31 – 11:00 am Worship Service

Birthdays: Nov. 26 – Karey Hildebrand; Nov. 29 – Andrea Hildebrand; Nov. 30 – Peggy Martens, Cayden Wood; Dec. 2 – Greg Costen

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you can help with decorating the church on Saturday, let Susie Fisher know. A few more volunteers are needed.

- Marge Friesen, Henry and Margaret Rempel send the following note: "Thank you, AMC, for your prayers, thoughts, flowers, and your presence after the passing of our brother, Jake. We appreciate it more than you know."

- 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

- **November 30, 1 – 7 pm – Blood Donor Clinic:** at the Altona Rhineland Pioneer Centre - Main Floor Hall – 227 – 10 Ave NW To register contact Blood.ca
There is a great need for blood donors.

- **Rhineland Empty Stocking Fund** - Where we provide gifts for kids and food gift cards for families in need.
For Referrals 431-342-0525 Nov 8-Dec 8
Deliveries will be Dec 16 between 9a-noon (If there are no children then a food gift card will be mailed) Or email Rhinelandesf@gmail.com for the link to sign up online.

Monetary donations can be sent to PO box 2255, Altona, R0G 0B0 or drop off at Pembina Valley Pharmacy or Access Credit Union in Altona, Gretna, Plum Coulee.

CONFERENCE or MCC RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **November 26 - Meditation Trail Launch at Camp Assiniboia.** All are welcome November 26 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm at the camp. Hot chocolate and snacks will be available after the walk. Springstein Mennonite is preparing the first meditation series.

- **November 29** - Canadian Mennonite presents, "Answering the Call: Three Young Pastors Reflect on Ministry," an online discussion on Wednesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. CT / 8:00 p.m. ET. Guests Curtis Wiens, Kennedy Froese and Elshaday Baraki will discuss their call to ministry and what they enjoy about being leaders in the church. Register today at: www.canadianmennonite.org/events

- **MCI is seeking a host family for a male student** in gr. 12 from Hong Kong. Hosting dates are Dec. 15-17th and Dec. 22-Jan. 7th. There is a \$600 stipend available for hosting over the Christmas break to help take care of our students. For more information, please reach out to mci@mciblues.net or call 204-327-5891.

- **December 2, 1 pm** - MCI's PAC invites you to a FREE event for the whole family on Dec. 2! A double feature in Buhler Hall, starting with The Grinch at 1:00 and The Star at 3:00. There will also be a scavenger hunt (with prize draw!), volleyball and playtime in the gym, pool and foosball, yard games and face painting! There will be a cash only concession with snacks and specialty coffees, lemonades and iced tea. See you there!

- **December 17 - Faith and Life Choirs Christmas Carol sing "My Soul Magnifies the Lord".** Sunday December 17, 2023. 3:30pm at Bethel Mennonite Church. Featuring poetry by Sue Sorensen and monologues by Arlyn Friesen Epp.

- **Choose gifts that change lives.** Sometimes the best gifts are ones that you can't simply pull off a shelf. This Christmas, we invite you to explore all the ways that you can share gifts of comfort and joy for the world. Visit mcc.org/Christmas to see what gifts would delight your loved ones and inspire them to see the change they could spark across the globe.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Pray for Erika Enns Rodine, Josh, Freya and Sigga.
- Prayers of condolence to Marge Friesen, and Henry & Margaret Rempel on the passing of their brother Jake Rempel.
- 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

- As we lament the ongoing hostility between Israelis and Palestinians, let us continue to pray for those working for a future that ends the deep and longstanding injustices that lie at the root of the crisis. The Palestine-Israel Network has provided prayers of lament and intercession: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/16090>

- **Praise God for volunteers in South Korea** - Join Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park, Witness workers in South Korea, in praising God for volunteers who spend time in training and volunteer facilitating circle process in Restorative Justice in school and community settings through the Chuncheon Community Peace Centre, South Korea.

- **Bethlehem Bible College continues its ministry despite the violence going on around it. Join them in prayer for peace.**