

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Jean Tarnick is back in her room at Eastview Place. She is finding the days long as she is not moving around much, and would welcome visitors.
- Bev Barton is back at home. There are still tests to be done. Pray for calm.
- We pray for the seniors in our congregation: Marianne Braun at Eastview; Bill Loewen and Elizabeth Falk at the Gardens; Harry & Susan Klassen at Golden West, and others who are not named.- We pray for all who are living with ongoing health concerns.
- We pray for those who are grieving, for those whose mental health and physical health make employment and daily life a struggle, for those in transition, for those who have moved to or are waiting to move to a new home. We pray for the family care-givers.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

- Please pray for the **Chuncheon Community Peace Center and the work of Mennonite Church Canada Witness workers, Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park.** For the past year they have been collaborating with Circles of Support and Accountability Korea (CoSA Korea) to provide a counselling and training program for local probation offices. Your financial support for continuing the peace presence in South Korea provided by Bock Ki and Sook Kyoung is urgently needed. Use this study guide to learn together with our companions in South Korea how to "seek peace and pursue it".

From the Pastor

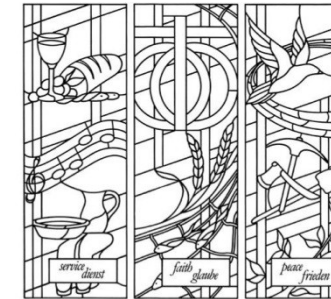
This week I'm including in this space A Note From Dianne (a different pastor)! Below is part of the message we received in the mail from Dianne Garcia, pastor of Roca de Refugio. They got all our Christmas cards and greetings, and she sent mail back to us at AMC saying Thank You and Happy Holidays, and this note comes from the first ever Annual Report for Nuevos Vecinos (New Neighbours), a ministry of Roca de Refugio.

"This has been the hardest year that our community has experienced. The community has been under attack from multiple directions. People, especially those without work permits or who had their work permits and legal status revoked, are struggling to keep steady jobs and put food on the table. Everyone struggles under the weight of the constant fear of being detained by ICE. Children have watched their parents arrested and taken away, never to come back. Pregnant mothers wonder how they will manage now, having and caring for a baby all alone after their husbands have been deported. The current administration has sent loud and clear the message that: you aren't wanted here; you don't belong here; we don't care about you.

Walking alongside a community facing such injustice and dehumanization has been exhausting and heart-breaking. But I couldn't have done it and we, as an organization that includes a super-committed board and amazing volunteers, couldn't have helped so many people without your generosity and support, without you all sending loud and clear the opposite message that our immigrant brothers and sisters are wanted, they do belong here, and their lives and their struggles matter.

Thank you so much, on behalf of our whole community: for your kindness, generosity and compassion. It has meant so much to so many. We are going to keep doing everything that we can every day to create thriving communities together with our immigrant neighbors. We are going to continue telling the story that immigrants are our best collaborators in building a brighter future for us all. We are going to keep advocating for our community in every way that we can. We look forward to continuing to join together with you in this effort in the year to come.

In community,
Dianne Garcia,
Pastor of Roca de Refugio
Director of Nuevos Vecinos



Altona Mennonite Church

Worship Service 11:00 am

VOLUME LXV No.3

January 18, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn VT 31 Come We that Love the Lord

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

Today we celebrate a special baptism;
the baptism of Jesus of Nazareth.

God says:

Look! See my chosen servant,
the One in whom I utterly delight;

**I have placed my Spirit on him,
He will bring true justice to the nations.**

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens opened up,
and the Spirit came down like a dove;
and there was a voice from heaven saying:

**"This is my dearly loved Son,
with whom I am delighted."**

The joy of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn VT 43 God be the Love

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

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Moderator: Ang Enns C:204-324-4046

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

Custodians: Ethan Franz – 204-304-2296 Rheanne Julien 204-914-9591

Altona Mennonite Church is on Treaty One Territory.

LISTENING and LEARNING

Scripture Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon Erika Enns Rodine

Hymn VT 458 The Water Is Ready

RESPONDING

Reflection Time

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Hymn VT 297 You Are Salt For The Earth

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Leader: Elaine Loewen

Musician(s): Kevin Neufeld, Nancy Ratzlaff

Technician: Dale Klassen

WORSHIP & MEETING EVENTS AT AMC

Jan. 25 – 9:45 am AMC Kids; Adult Study Group

11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine

Theme: Baptism *Scripture:* Isaiah 42:1-9; Matthew 4:12-23

Worship Leader: Norma Thiessen *Musician(s):* Loren Brault, Sylvia Klassen *Technician:* Kevin Neufeld

– 1:00 pm AMC's AGM after the service, bring a lunch or order pizza

February 1 – 9:45 am AMC Kids; Adult Study Group

11:00 am Worship Service

February 8 – 9:45 am AMC Kids; Adult Study Group

11:00 am Worship Service – Erika Enns Rodine

February 15 – Worship Service – guest speaker from MCC

February 22 – Worship Service – Dan Kehler

Birthdays: January 18 – Margot Fisher; January 19 – Ken Hamm

AMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We welcome Ethan Franz and Rheanne Julien to the position of AMC custodians!

- The Report Books are put out ahead of time so that folks have some time to read them in advance of the AGM, which is what we assume/expect people to do! In other words, we won't be going over the reports during the AGM! They are also available on line on our church website. Proxy forms are also on the lobby table.

- There is an invitation to stay for lunch after church on Jan 25. We will order pizza again, so if you're interested in joining the pizza party, please text/email/talk to Erika by Jan 20 to let her know how many pieces of pizza you'd like. Drinks will be included in this lunch option. 😊

- A reminder that the **10:30 am AMC Coffee sign up sheet** is on the wall near the office door. Feel free to volunteer!

- If anyone wants to receive the **Rejoice! Devotional booklet**, please let the church office know asap. The cost for the subscription is \$65 or so for the 4 books. If you are currently receiving it, and wish to continue, the next pay period is when the current book runs out.

From the Treasurer:

- Thank you for what you have given in 2025. Please continue to make donations to AMC through etransfer (amchurchdonations@gmail.com), online bill payments through Access Credit Union, and the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. The year ended with AMC being quite close to meeting budget.

COMMUNITY AND LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Do you like to sing? Southern Manitoba Choral Society begins the new season on Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30 pm in the WC Miller choral room. No auditions required. You may still join.

- **Steps Toward Reconciliation** extends an invitation to join them on Tuesday **January 20th at 7:00pm** at the Rhineland Pioneer Center in Altona for an evening with Niigaan Sinclair, renowned Anishinaabe writer, editor, professor, and activist. This event is made possible by the Province of Manitoba Orange Shirt Day Funding. Niigaan Sinclair is Anishinaabe from Peguis First Nation and a professor at the University of Manitoba, where he holds the Faculty of Arts Professorship in Indigenous Knowledge and Aesthetics in the Department of Indigenous Studies. He is an award winning author and a featured member of the Friday "Power Panel" on CBC's Power & Politics. Niigaan is a proud Treaty One member.

CONFERENCE or MCC RELATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MCM Monday.** January 26, 7:30-8:30pm on Zoom. Safe Church Policies: A panel discussion. Join Michael Pahl who will moderate a conversation on how churches are handling the necessary work around Safe Church policies.. www.mennochurch.mb.ca/mcmmondays for the the Zoom link and more info.

- **2026 John and Margaret Friesen Lecture Series** – A two-part lecture series titled, "The Shifting National Identities of Mennonites in Polish/German Lands," featuring Dr. Mark Jantzen, Professor of History at Bethel College (Kansas). Join us on Thursday, January 22 at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM CST in the CMU Chapel or by livestream. Visit cmu.ca/friesenlectures for details.

- **Camps with Meaning summer staff** application portal is open. www.campswithmeaning.org/staff

- **Summer camp registration** is open for kids Gr 1 to Gr 12. www.campswithmeaning.org

- **MCM is hosting Winnipeg's ecumenical service** that begins the 2026 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. January 18, 7:30pm at First Mennonite Church. Consider joining the choir, which will rehearse at First Mennonite January 4 and 11, 6:30pm. It would be great to have strong MCM representation for this!

Mennonite Action Canada in action! January 25 and/or February 22, join us in national community phone zaps. We will collectively contact our MPs to urge them to vote in favour of Bill C-233, the "no loopholes" act, to prevent Canada from selling armaments to Israel and Sudan through the USA. For more information: FB or IG: @MennoActionCanada Email: MennoiteActionCanada@pm.me