
Scripture Reading

Proverbs 3:5-10 (NRSV)

- ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
- ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
- ⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
- ⁸ It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.
- ⁹ Honor the LORD with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your produce;
- ¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

James 1:1-5, 17-18

- ¹ James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.
- ² My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; ⁴ and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.
- ⁵ If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.
- ¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Education

Adult Education | How might Bethel's experience during this time of COVID change the church going forward? This is the topic for the first Adult Ed session on Sept. 13; all three pastors will share their thoughts. This will be a "hybrid" discussion simultaneously in person and on Zoom, starting at 11:15 am.

On Sept. 20, Darryl Loewen, Executive Director, MCC Manitoba, will share how Covid-9 has interrupted/shifted local volunteer work (e.g. Thrift & Sam's Place), domestic office and international work, how planning (i.e. budget and programming) are affected, and how the early months of Covid-19 have matched our expectations and adaptations. The plan is to have a "hybrid" session in person and on Zoom, starting at 11:15 am.

Bethel Announcements

Our in-person and online worship services will continue on Sundays at 10:00 am, until further notice.

Please be aware of the following: only the main church doors will be used; masks must be worn; physical distancing must be observed; ushers will register people when they enter the building; ushers will direct people to their seats; there will be no access to the coat racks, mailboxes, nursery area, or the library; all washrooms are available for use; at the end of the service, ushers will direct people when to exit – the folks using walkers or wheelchairs will be the last to exit; there will be no coffee fellowship or socializing in the building. *[A detailed list of protocols is available from the church office.]*

Our ushers are very important to help carry out our worship protocols and to ensure that the flow of people in and out of the sanctuary is efficiently and effectively maintained. Our Usher Committee co-chairs tell us that **we need more ushers** for these services. If you wish to help out with this, please contact the church office.

Bethel Women in Mission | The meeting scheduled for Sept. 14 is cancelled.

Bethel Pilgrim Group | For a number of years, the Pilgrim Group has met monthly (except during holiday months) to provide opportunity for sharing and discussion of the experiences of our LGBTQ friends and family members as they relate to the Church. Although the Group is based at Bethel and Bethel folks are most welcome to attend, there are people from many different faith traditions who have joined the discussions over the years. For more information, please contact the church office.

Library Update | *Mennonite Village Photography* is a unique book that illustrates life in Manitoba Mennonite villages from 1890 to 1940. Featuring the work of four Mennonite photographers: Peter Hamm, Peter Klippenstein, Johan Funk, and Heinrich Fast, the book was edited by Susie Fisher, a curator at Gallery in the Park in Altona. The book's images are fascinating and the text includes interesting biographies of each of the photographers.

Partners in Ministry

Mennonite Church Canada

mennonitechurch.ca

Leah Reesor-Keller Begins as Executive Minister for MCEC | *"We're on a journey together that requires courageous imagination to open us to seeing where the Spirit is at work among us and in the world. In the midst of the pandemic, in the midst of social upheaval, in the midst of people and creation in crisis, God is busy doing new things, and making a way where there was no way. This is an unsettled time, but we have the gift of our faith tradition to draw on, and our active hope in God's restorative love for us and the world that is moving all things toward wholeness, peace and shalom even if that is not always visible to us."* We wish Leah God's blessing as she begins this new role.

MC Canada's study conference, Table Talk 2020: "Does the Church still have legs?" is on Oct. 24. Speakers include Gerald Gerbrandt, President Emeritus of CMU. Register at: mennonitechurch.ca/tabletalk2020.

Postures of trust, an interview with Tany Warkentin, Liaison to Ministry in Africa for MC Canada. Tany shares about the relationships formed between our Canadian congregations and the Burkina Faso Church, and ways congregations can learn more and become involved in International Witness ministry in Africa: mennonitechurch.ca/article/10632.

We continue to celebrate with Prairie Mennonite Fellowship, our newest congregation, born from the merger of Crystal City Mennonite and Trinity Mennonite Fellowship (Mather). They will come together for their first official service this Sunday, meeting in the former Crystal City Mennonite building. The theme passage is 1 Peter 2:4-10.

Connect with Mennonite Women Manitoba on Facebook, an online location for connection, resource sharing and encouragement; posting of Global, National and Regional news and events.

<https://www.facebook.com/MennoniteWomen.MB>

Camps with Meaning | *Camp Assiniboia* facilities are available for rental to families and small groups. Brochure, rates, and contact info at:

<http://www.campswithmeaning.org/rentals>. | *Camp Koinonia* plans to fix basement issues in the lodge, starting on Sept 14. To volunteer, please contact Matt Heide at 204-534-8268 or campkoinoniamatt@gmail.com.

Canadian Mennonite University**cmu.ca**

Xplore has moved online! Because of Covid-19, the Xplore +55 courses in 20-21 are moving online via Zoom, thus making all courses available widely across the country. Eight stimulating courses are offered every Wednesday and Thursday morning over a six-week period, beginning Sept. 30. View course, tuition, and registration info: cmu.ca/explore.

Mennonite Central Committee**mccmb.ca**

“Advocacy for Peace and Justice: Conversations from the field” webinar, Sept. 24. Hear stories of how advocacy can make a difference in the lives of marginalized and displaced peoples, from Latin America to Palestine and Israel. Register: mccmb.ca/mcc-webinar-series.

We Are All Treaty People Celebration | Tune into UFMF's radio station in the afternoon of Sept 27 to hear a variety of speakers share about what Being Treaty means to them. Find out more at mccmb.ca/Events.

This fall, give the gift of relief | Gather essential hygiene supplies, drop them off at 134 Plaza Drive, between Oct. 15-17, and give hope to those who need it most. Find out which items are needed most at:

mccmb.ca/Buckets-Thanks or contact us if you or your church group would like to get involved at 204-261-6381 or events@mccmb.ca.

MCC United Nations Office Online Student Seminar, Nov. 5-6.

Inequality defines our current time – in health, economics, and racial injustice. Explore the intersection of global inequality, UN public policy, and faith-based advocacy in this seminar. To apply, contact Joanna Hiebert Bergen at 204-261-6381 or email advocacy@mccmb.ca.