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## Scripture Reading

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### Isaiah 40:10-11 (NRSV)

<sup>10</sup> See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup> He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

### John 10:11-18

<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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## Education

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**Adult Education** | Two speakers are scheduled for October; both will present via Zoom only, due to present COVID restrictions. Oct. 11: Jeanette Hanson, Director, International Witness, Mennonite Church Canada. Oct. 25: Kerry Saner-Harvey, Program Coordinator, Indigenous Neighbours, MCC Manitoba.

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## Bethel Announcements

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**This past week** our new Mennonite Voluntary Service unit arrived in Winnipeg. They will complete 14 days of isolation, after which they will be able to begin their new work assignments.

**Bethel Women in Mission** meeting, scheduled for Monday, Oct. 5, is cancelled. As well, the proposed meeting for the Executive, Program Committee and Food Committee is postponed until a later date.

**Message from Church Council** | Subsequent to Darrel's five year review last year, we learned that the annual review of Bethel's Lead Pastor as mandated in our policy statements was not happening. To rectify this situation, the Pastor Congregation Relations Committee has developed a formalized review process which the Council Executive Committee has endorsed. The CEC together with the PCRC have struck a Review Committee to conduct the review for 2020.

Church leaders, Bethel members, and participants are welcome to participate in the review. Feel free to forward your comments on pastor Darrel's ministry: what have you liked; what more would you like to see. ***All feedback should be addressed to the Council Chair or Review Committee***, either via email or written notes dropped off at the church office. The deadline for feedback is October 16. Please note that unsigned comments will not be considered.

The Review Committee plans to conclude its review by the end of October.

**From Church Council: Access to the church building** | With the announcement that the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region has moved to the Orange (Restricted) Response Level, Bethel has adjusted our building access protocols, effective immediately. The primary change to the protocols is the requirement for all Bethel Family members, guests, and staff to wear a facemask while indoors. This will be for all areas of the Church.

In addition to this change, gathering sizes are limited to a maximum of 10 people, both indoors and outdoors, including weddings and funerals. If you have an event booked with more than 10 people, you will be contacted to make alternative arrangements.

At this time, seating in churches for worship services is allowed to remain at 30 percent of capacity. As a result, our in-person worship services in the sanctuary will continue as they have been. Adult Education sessions, however, will revert back to Zoom sessions only, until further notice

Our overall access to the building protocols have been updated by the Bethel Emergency Response Team (BERT). Detailed updated protocols are on our website. These protocols are under the heading "Church Council." Those who do not have access to online information can request a printed copy by calling the church office. You are encouraged to read through the detailed protocols and do your part to ensure that they are met.

**Bethel's Walking Club** will meet on Mon., Oct. 5, at 9:30 am, to walk the Bois-des-Esprits trail. Interested in becoming part of this group? Contact the church office for information as to where the group will start as well as Covid-19 protocols.

**Transfer of membership** | The deacon executive recommends one person for membership. This will happen on Oct. 11.

**Counselling services** | With the heightened anxiety at least partially driven by the pandemic, and given our strong ongoing concerns for the sustaining health of all our congregants, last May the deacon executive renewed our formal arrangement with Recovery of Hope Counseling Services. Our Care Partner plan covers four annual sessions/client. If the client requires aid covering the \$100/hour fee, Bethel's arrangement with Recovery of Hope allows for a very low nominal \$10 fee with the remainder being covered by the church (\$60/session) and the Eden Health Care Foundation (\$30/session). Please contact one of the pastors for a referral, or if you prefer, a direct contact may also be pursued.

**Library Update** | Winnipeg author David Bergen's new collection of short stories, titled *Here the Dark*, is a riveting read. Each story in the collection is set in a different place and the engaging characters teach the reader a great deal about love, faith and family. Each story poses important questions. Each asks what it means to be lost and seeks to determine how through grace we can be found. Call the church office for library access.

**Access Note** | Stafford Street will be closed between Grant Ave and Pembina Hwy, on Fri., Oct. 2 at 6:00 pm through Mon., Oct. 5, at 3:00 pm. Access to the church parking lot is available from Harrow Street.

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## Partners in Ministry

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**Mennonite Church Canada**

**mennonitechurch.ca**

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**Siaka Traoré**, a church leader, pastor and church planter, is an integral bridge-builder in MC Canada's longtime partnership with the Burkina Faso Mennonite Church. We recently received news that after suffering from typhoid fever, Siaka has tested positive for COVID-19. Please pray that through God's power, Siaka's body and spirit will successfully recover from the virus. Pray also for his family as they await test results.

**Joji Pantoja**, International Witness worker, has been named one of three global honorees for the 2020 Oslo Business for Peace Award. Praise God for this recognition of years of faithful work in the Philippines. Read more at: <https://waves.ca>.

**MC Canada's study conference**, Table Talk 2020: "Does the Church still have legs?" is on Oct. 24. Speakers include CMU Professor of New Testament, Sheila Klassen-Wiebe, who will lead a Bible study. Register at: [mennonitechurch.ca/tabletalk2020](http://mennonitechurch.ca/tabletalk2020) .

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## **Mennonite Church Manitoba**

[mennochurch.mb.ca](http://mennochurch.mb.ca)

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**MCM Thanksgiving Report** | We will not gather as a Regional Church body this fall, so we've produced a short update on how things are going with your ministries through MCM. [MCM Thanksgiving Report 2020.pdf](#)

**Rick Neufeld** shares a short update and a few words of encouragement. Watch on [Youtube here](#) .

**Camps with Meaning "Break the Bank-uet" Fundraising Celebration.**  
| Online, Oct. 25, 7:00 pm. Musical guests: Steve Bell, Fred Penner, Kim Thiessen, and Darryl Neustaedter Barg and our camp staff. Enjoy visual updates from Camp Assiniboia and Camp Koinonia. Donate generously to keep the camping ministry flame burning. [campswithmeaning.org/banquet](http://campswithmeaning.org/banquet)

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## **Canadian Mennonite University**

[cmu.ca](http://cmu.ca)

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**CMU Wednesday Webinars** for prospective students and their parents. The first webinar, '*The What and the Why of University*,' Oct 7 at 6:00 pm. More information at [www.cmu.ca/webinar](http://www.cmu.ca/webinar).

**CommonWord Book and Resource Centre** on CMU's campus is initiating "*CommonRead*" – a nation-wide opportunity for congregations to *read one title together* to strengthen collective faith identity. CommonWord invites you to read, individually or as a small group, the timely book *Signs of Life: Resurrecting Hope out of Ordinary Losses* – an exploration of the grand story of God's saving resurrection power in times of loss and hurt. Details at: [www.commonword.ca/go/2124](http://www.commonword.ca/go/2124).

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## **Mennonite Central Committee**

[mccmb.ca](http://mccmb.ca)

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**Buckets of Thanks** | Gather essential hygiene items for a relief kit. Details at [mccmb.ca/Buckets-Thanks](http://mccmb.ca/Buckets-Thanks). To drop-off at 134 Plaza Drive, book an appointment: 204-261-6381, or [events@mccmb.ca](mailto:events@mccmb.ca).

**'Singin' in the Grain'** *virtual* fundraising concert in support of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank partner, MCC, at 8:00 pm, on World Food Day, Oct. 16. Join in at: [www.foodgrainsbank.ca/singing](http://www.foodgrainsbank.ca/singing).

**The Fall 2020 issue** of *Intersections: MCC Theory and Practice Quarterly* is available online. Downloadable: <https://mcc.org/media/resources/9812>.