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## Scripture Reading

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### Isaiah 55:1-13 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup> For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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## Education

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**Adult Ed** | Jan. 24: no session. Next week: Jan. 31, Does the Church still have legs? Session three: “That you might proclaim,” Irma Fast Dueck leading. Feb. 7, Does the Church still have legs? Final session: “That you might proclaim”. Zoom link available from the church office.

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## Bethel Announcements

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**From Church Council** | There will be a Virtual Congregational meeting via Zoom on **Wed., Jan. 27, at 7:00-8:30 pm**. In preparation for the meeting, please review the 2020 financial statements and the 2021 budget proposal – both documents are available in the member protected area on the Bethel Mennonite Church website. Zoom link available from the church office.

**Thursday Morning Coffee Time** | Join Pastoral Intern Kim Rempel for zoom coffee time every Thursday morning from 10:00-11:00 am. We will begin with a brief devotional, and then take time to chat and catch up. In the spirit of coffee time, you're encouraged to make yourself a hot (or cold) beverage to enjoy. This is a "drop in" time, so feel free to come and go as your schedule allows. Zoom link available from the church office.

**Library Update** | In his book, *The Hidden Life of Trees*, Peter Wohlleben explains how there is a kind of family connection between trees not unlike the connections in our human families. Sharing groundbreaking scientific research about trees, Wohlleben describes his deep love of forests in a way that will make your next walk in the woods a whole new experience.

**Harvest Manitoba** | We currently have a position for a volunteer Harvest Assistant to work alternate Mondays from 11 am to 7 pm during the months of January to April 2021 at our food bank. The person's duties would include assisting with the unloading of food from the truck, setting up for the food bank, helping with distribution, and assisting with a variety of administrative functions related to the food bank at Bethel. Moderate physical activity is required. COVID-19 protocols are in place, but it is recommended that those in higher risk demographics refrain from volunteering at this time. The volunteer will be offered an honorarium for each day worked.

If you have questions or if you or someone you know may be interested in this position, please contact Pastor Kathy McCamis.

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## Partners in Ministry

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### Mennonite Church Canada

mennonitechurch.ca

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**Christian Peacemaker Teams** webinar, Jan. 28; learn about their current work. Register: [cptaction.org/looking-back-acting-now-planning-ahead/](https://cptaction.org/looking-back-acting-now-planning-ahead/).

**Anabaptist Global Fellowship Sunday – Jan. 24** | Mennonite World Conference calls us to prayer on this day. Praise God that Anabaptists around the world are united in faith in God’s kingdom across language and cultural differences. Give thanks for the growing networks in the MWC family: mission, service, health, peace and education.

**Lent Resources** | For Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week: [commonword.ca/go/2213](https://commonword.ca/go/2213); Lenten Guided Prayer from Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada – [commonword.ca/go/2221](https://commonword.ca/go/2221).

### Mennonite Church Manitoba

mennochurch.mb.ca

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**Camps with Meaning** | This is what living in hope looks like: the summer staff applications are now available: [\[Link\]](#) .

**Concordia Hospital** | Available: 0.9FTE Chaplain position, and a casual position. Contact: Kathleen Rempel Boschman at 204-661-7149 or [krboschman@concordiahospital.mb.ca](mailto:krboschman@concordiahospital.mb.ca).

**Camp Elim** invites applications for Executive Director position; details at: [campelim.ca](https://campelim.ca) .Send cover letter and resume to Lorna Wiens, Chairperson, Camp Elim Board of Directors, by Feb. 15: [campelim1@sasktel.net](mailto:campelim1@sasktel.net) .

### Westgate Mennonite Collegiate

westgatemennonite.ca

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**For more than 60 years**, we have had the honour to work with our families and our churches as partners in Christian education. We are your school and invite you to come learn more. Upcoming *Discover Westgate* events and more info: [www.westgatemennonite.org](https://www.westgatemennonite.org) . Keep connected with Westgate on FaceBook (@westgatemennonite), Instagram (@westgatewinnipeg), and YouTube (Westgate Mennonite Collegiate).

### Winnipeg Mennonite Elementary & Middle Schools

wmems.ca

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**Virtual Open Houses** on Jan. 26 (Bedson Campus) and 28 (Katherine Friesen Campus) at 6:30 pm. Visit: [wmems.ca](https://wmems.ca) to register.

**Supply teacher** position available; details at: [wmems.ca](https://wmems.ca).

CMU is returning to hybrid classes at its Shaftesbury campus on Jan. 25. Full details at [media.cmu.ca/](https://media.cmu.ca/).

**Virtual Open House**, Jan. 27, 4:00 pm. See: [cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse](https://cmu.ca/virtualopenhouse).

**Through this Place** | Monthly E-newsletter: [cmu.ca/newsletter](https://cmu.ca/newsletter) .

**Conrad Grebel University College****uwaterloo.ca/grebel/**

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**Jan. 27 at 12:30** | The free Grebel Noon Hour Concert series will feature *Voices Together* committee member Anneli Loepf Thiessen. See: [uwaterloo.ca/music/events/noon-hour-concert-still-singing-women-composers-and-voices](https://uwaterloo.ca/music/events/noon-hour-concert-still-singing-women-composers-and-voices) .

**Jan. 27 at 7 pm** – Join the Grebel Community for a special virtual chapel service to celebrate the arrival of our new hymnal *Voices Together*.

Details: [uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events/hymnal-celebration-sarah-johnson](https://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events/hymnal-celebration-sarah-johnson) .

**Mennonite Central Committee****mccmb.ca**

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**MCC is looking** for a Planned Giving Associate: [mccmb.ca/Openings](https://mccmb.ca/Openings) .

**Threads**, an MCC Manitoba radio show, airs at 8:45 am every fourth Sunday of the month on CFAM AM 950, CHSM AM 1250 and CHRB AM 1220. Visit [mccmb.ca/Threads](https://mccmb.ca/Threads) for past episodes.

**Effective April 1, 2021**, MCC Canada will relocate its central material resources warehouse from Plum Coulee MB, to New Hamburg ON. The Plum Coulee location will close on June 30. See: [bit.ly/MCC-relocates](https://bit.ly/MCC-relocates).

**The MCC Furniture Thrift Store** is hosting their AGM via zoom on Feb. 8 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Please indicate your interest in participating by email to: [davedyck34@hotmail.com](mailto:davedyck34@hotmail.com). You will be sent additional information in preparation for the meeting.