
Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 31:1-9 (NRSV)

¹ In the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ² Mortal, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his hordes:

Whom are you like in your greatness?

³ Consider Assyria, a cedar of Lebanon, with fair branches and forest shade, and of great height, its top among the clouds.

⁴ The waters nourished it, the deep made it grow tall, making its rivers flow around the place it was planted, sending forth its streams to all the trees of the field.

⁵ So it towered high above all the trees of the field; its boughs grew large and its branches long, from abundant water in its shoots.

⁶ All the birds of the air made their nests in its boughs; under its branches all the animals of the field gave birth to their young; and in its shade all great nations lived.

⁷ It was beautiful in its greatness, in the length of its branches; for its roots went down to abundant water.

⁸ The cedars in the garden of God could not rival it, nor the fir trees equal its boughs; the plane trees were as nothing compared with its branches; no tree in the garden of God was like it in beauty.

⁹ I made it beautiful with its mass of branches, the envy of all the trees of Eden that were in the garden of God.

Psalm 92:12-15

¹² The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³ They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴ In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap,

¹⁵ showing that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Education

Adult Ed | 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”.

Topic: Adult Education; Time: Jan 31, 2021 11:15 AM; contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Bethel Announcements

Church Council | Letters and ballots have been mailed to Bethel members in regard to the Jan. 27 congregational meeting. Please fill out the ballots and return them to the church **by Feb. 10**. | A recording of the meeting is available by request.

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. | Topic: Thursday Morning Coffee Time; 10:00 AM Winnipeg; * Every week on Thursday *. Contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Bethel is looking for 14 delegates to attend (by Zoom) the annual sessions of Mennonite Church Manitoba on Saturday morning, Mar. 6. This is your opportunity to learn more about the workings of our area church!! Delegates of all age groups are needed! Please contact the church office if you are interested.

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 of \$120 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.

Library Update | In his bestselling 2019 book, *Underland*, Robert MacFarlane makes us consider what lies beneath our feet including the vast underground network by which trees communicate. Global in its geography the book provides a deep time voyage into our planet's past and future.

Partners in Ministry

Mennonite Church Canada

mennonitechurch.ca

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

CommonWord, Herald Press and MC USA partner for Common Read winter title: *I Am Not Your Enemy: Stories to Transform a Divided World*, by Michael T. McRay. See: commonword.ca/go/2215.

Pray for the Mission Anabaptist Church in Chin State, Myanmar, as they build a place where they can worship with and train members of their community. Pray that God will bless this place and use it to be a blessing to their region and country.

Lent At-Home devotional guide for families, from Mennonite Church USA. See: commonword.ca/go/2240.

Encounters on the Way: Nourished by Life - a personal memoir by Robert J. Suderman, former General Secretary of Mennonite Church Canada. See: commonword.ca/go/2238.

Mennonite Church Manitoba

mennochurch.mb.ca

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.

Congregational Leadership Transitions | Rejoice with Charleswood MC as they install Lisa Enns as a co-pastor on Jan. 31; John P. Klassen will end his 23 years of ministry at Emmanuel MC at the end of March; Gloria Beck will end 7 years of ministry at Arnaud MC in April. John P. Klassen will step in as interim at Arnaud for a 14 month period starting in May.

Mennonite Women Manitoba are thrilled to announce their new name: *Woven: Mennonite Women Together*. With the vision of resourcing women and women's groups within MCM, the last few years we have given energy to: hosting Conversation Circles, Day Retreats, Resource Displays, and establishing a Bursary Fund at CMU for International Anabaptist

Bethel Mennonite Church, January 31, 2021

Women. We chose the name Woven to express our commitment to strengthen and support spaces and places of conversation, empowerment and networking for women of all ages. Woven together through living relationships and living Spirit. Visit our [Facebook Page: Mennonite Women Manitoba](#) (soon to become Woven).

Westgate Mennonite Collegiate

westgatemennonite.ca

Discover Westgate Virtual Open House for parents and students on Tues. Feb. 2, at 6:30 pm. Contact the school for more information and the link: 204-775-7111 or lh@westgatemennonite.org.

Canadian Mennonite University

cmu.ca

Through this Place | Monthly E-newsletter: cmu.ca/newsletter .

Mennonite Central Committee

mccmb.ca

This February, join the **Great Winter Warm-up** from home! We're celebrating all things comforters - from the compassionate people who make blankets to the families who receive them. Get involved by creating a comforter at home, sponsoring a warm blanket as a Valentine's gift for a friend, or by sharing your comforter stories with us on social media. Learn more at: mccmb.ca/GreatWinterWarmup.

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. You will be sent additional information in preparation for the meeting.