
Scripture Reading

Numbers 21:4-9 (NRSV)

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3:14-21

¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Education

Bethel Kids Connecting invites your children to join us for a weekly virtual gathering for the season of Lent. The plan is to gather every Sunday at 11:15 am over Zoom for a 30 minute session, until April 4. With the intention of emulating an in-person gathering, each session

will include a game, story, scripture verse, prayer time and craft tutorial. Similar to Advent, we are preparing craft bags with supplies for each week's activities. If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Valerie at valerie@bethelmennonite.ca.

Adult Ed | March 14: Shane Loney, the co-founder of several social enterprises in Manitoba including BUILD, Aki Energy and Aki Foods, will share his vision and work in developing social enterprises with the indigenous community. *"Winnipeg's defining issue is connecting the people that most need the work with the work that most needs to be done."* Shaun Loney. Contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Bethel Announcements

Community Life/Hospitality Committee event:

- *Play Bethel Bingo:* starts on March 15 and continues for two weeks. Everyone who is interested will receive two cards (deadline is Mar. 14) and get daily emails or phone calls on the latest numbers that are picked. Contact the church office to get your bingo cards.

Thursday Morning Coffee Time | Join Pastoral Intern Kim Rempel for a Zoom coffee time every Thursday morning from 10:00-11:00 am. Contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Pilgrim Group meeting | Thursday, March 18, 7:00 pm. contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Witness Committee | We have an exciting opportunity to continue our refugee work with Jubilee Mennonite Church to help bring the last members of the Rohingya refugee family to Winnipeg. The Witness Committee is looking to form a Refugee Committee of about four people to help continue this work. The Refugee Committee will be asked to help with fundraising efforts as well as connect with the Jubilee Settlement Team to support the family once they arrive. ***If you feel called to join the Refugee Committee or want to know more, please contact the church office.***

Library Update | Two books with the word kingdom in their titles were recently added to the Bethel Library. Both were purchased at the request of Bethel members. *Transcendent Kingdom*, by Yaa Gyasi, follows the life of a brilliant neuro-scientist named Gifty who is trying to unlock the mysteries of addiction and depression which have wreaked havoc in her family's life. Her struggle to maintain her spiritual faith is challenged as she searches for scientific understanding. | *Blue Sky Kingdom*, by Bruce Kirby, is a memoir of his family's

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journey to a thousand-year-old remote Tibetan Monastery where they hope to be able to live a more peaceful existence and perhaps come to a deeper understanding of what they need to do to support their seven-year-old son with autism. *Please call the church office to make an appointment to access the library.*

Cook the Books | If you ordered a printed copy, please call the church office (204-453-2199) to make an appointment to pick it up at the church.

Partners in Ministry

Mennonite Church Canada

mennonitechurch.ca

Job opportunity | Executive assistant, full-time, in Winnipeg, beginning May, 2021. See the MC Canada website for details.

Pray for the MC Saskatchewan Annual Delegate Sessions this weekend.

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

Mennonite Church Manitoba

mennochurch.mb.ca

Amplifying Jesus: Sunday night worship ...a 6 week series of Lent Worship Services for MCM Youth, 8:00 pm; contact: kgiesbrecht@mennochurch.mb.ca .

Break Every Yoke | On March 24, MCM and First MC are co-sponsoring a conversation about working towards a just and dignified society. Speakers include David Driedger; Winnipeg Centre MP Leah Gazana; and author, John Clarke. See: firstmennonitechurch.ca/break-every-yoke/.

The MCM Board and Staff thank all the delegates and friends who joined us at Saturday's Annual Gathering. Documents, statistics, and video reports are available at: [Gathering 2021 page](#).

Canadian Mennonite University

cmu.ca

Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Webinar | Mar. 23, 7:00 pm. Prospective students who attend the webinar and submit a GSTM application by May 31 will have their application fee waived. Register at: enrolment.cmu.ca/register/gstmwebinar.

Spring at CMU | April 13, 7:00 pm, at www.cmu.ca/springatcmu. Hear stories from students, faculty and alumni; CMU Singers' premiere of *Breathe* by Leonard Enns; and more. Optional Part Two: Conversation

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with President Cheryl Pauls and others at 8:00 pm. RSVP to development@cmu.ca by April 9 to receive the conversation Zoom link.

CMU launches *new* Centre for Career and Vocation | Its mission is "to equip members of the CMU community to purposefully connect calling, courses, and career through curriculum-integrated academic and vocational advising, experiential and work-integrated learning, and encouraging interdisciplinary exploration and creativity." See: www.cmu.ca/career-vocation.

CMU Podcast "So What?" | Episode 3: Treaty. What are treaties and why do they matter? Visit www.cmu.ca/sowhatpodcast to listen.

Mennonite Central Committee

mccmb.ca

SALT (Serving and Learning Together) | International service opportunities available. Learn more at: mccmb.ca/SALT.

UNMUTE is a Zoom theatre piece that addresses the rise of domestic violence and gender-based assault during COVID-19. Registration is free and opens March 15. Find out more at mcccanada.ca/unmute.

Other

Lindenwood Villa | Suite available. Church member open house March 21, 1:00-2:00 pm. Public open house March 21, 2:00-4:00 pm. For more information please call D'Anne Hansen 204-979-0432.