



Bulletin

February 12, 2017

Hope Mennonite Church acknowledges our presence on the lands of the Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, and Metis nations, on Treaty lands, covenanted between Indigenous and settler peoples in 1871. We are grateful to our host nations.

Sunday, February 12

Curling at Sperling. Everyone is invited to join us out at Sperling, Manitoba, for a fun day of worship, eating (potluck), skating, curling, board games, knitting and conversation. BRiC (Building Relationships in the Congregation committee) will be organizing transportation. A group of CMU students will be leading the worship service.

Worship at Sperling will be made up of short reflections on the theme of joy. Those sharing are Patrick F, Anna E, and Emily H. Alex T is leading worship, and Peter F, Erin F and Jacqueline G are leading music. **The worship service begins at 10:30am.**

Details re: potluck meal at Sperling

Those that signed up to bring chili, remember to bring it along with you! And for the rest who are coming out, the request is for all whose have last names that begin with A-N to bring a salad and/or finger vegetables. And for those whose last names begin with O-Z to bring a dessert and/or snack.

Rides to Sperling

Drivers and riders, be sure to connect with each other via phone or email about pick-up times and locations. If you have any further questions about rides, ask Clare.

Children's Circle

There will be no Children's Circle this week. Next week will be the regular rotation of the third Sunday.

Sunday, February 19

Clare is speaking, John H is worship leading, Thomas E and Leah S are leading music, and Sandy is greeting.

Canadian Mennonite University

On Wednesday, April 5 plan to attend “**Gather. Give. Celebrate. Spring at CMU**”, a celebrative evening in support of CMU. The evening will include awarding Christian Peacemaker Teams with the CMU PAX Award; recognizing the leadership of the Capital Campaign Cabinet in constructing Marpeck Commons; music by the CMU Singers; and input and reflection from faculty, alumni, and students. For more information see cmu.ca/springatcmu.

Xplore: Keep Thinking: enrol in CMU’s 55-Plus Enrichment Program, offered Wednesday mornings at CMU from March 8 – April 12. Courses include **Disorientation and Delight: Biblical Wisdom and the Presence of God** with [Gordon Matties](#) (*Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies & Theology*). For information and to enrol go to cmu.ca/explore.

As people of peace in a world with much violence, the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding** is a great place to learn peacebuilding skills, to connect with other peacebuilders, and to hear inspiring stories. Come join our wildly diverse community for a 5-day session, **June 12-16 or 19-23, 2017**. More information is available at csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca.

Enjoy an exciting evening of vocal and instrumental performances at CMU’s **Verna Mae Janzen Music Competition** on February 15 at 7:00 PM in the Laudamus Auditorium, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd. Finalists Alexander Milevic, Alyssa Hildebrand, Anneli Loepp Thiessen, Elowen Braunstein-Black, Emma Heinrichs, and Nolan Kehler will be featured. Admission is free.

Worship with us at **CMU Vespers**, a monthly worship service incorporating scripture, prayer, hymns, and choral music. This month’s choir director is John Poettcker and worship leader is Irma Fast Dueck. Sunday, February 19, 7:00 PM, Laudamus Auditorium, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd.

You are warmly invited to an **evening of musical theatre** with CMU Opera Workshop’s presentation of H.M.S. Pinafore. Performances will be held Thursday, March 9 to Saturday March 11 at 7:00 PM and Sunday at 2:30 PM in the Laudamus Auditorium, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd. Tickets available at the door: adults \$20; students \$15.

Mennonite Central Committee

Special Event: Wintertreffen: *Sunday, February 26, 2:30 pm, 409 Recreation Centre, Arborg*
Join us at the Arborg Bifrost Community Centre for an afternoon of music and updates on MCC’s local and international work opp Plautdietsch followed by a potluck fasp! For more information visit <http://mccmb.ca/wintertreffen>.

MCC Manitoba welcomes applications for Community Engagement Coordinator (12 month term position) based in Winnipeg. Applications are accepted until February 13. For more information and to apply, please visit <https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/community-engagement-coordinator>.

MCC Canada welcomes applications for Humanitarian Relief & Disaster Recovery Coordinator (12 month term position) based in Winnipeg. Applications are accepted until

February 16. For more information and to apply, please visit <http://mccmb.ca/serve/humanitarian-relief-disaster-recovery-coordinator>.

Summerbridge: MCC is accepting applications for Summerbridge 2017. This 8-12 week service program provides opportunities for young adults to develop leadership skills and deeper engagement with their local church and community. The program encourages participation of young people from diverse cultural backgrounds. If you are interested in learning more about Summerbridge, please contact Katie Froese at katiefroese@mccmb.ca or 204-925-1929.

Mennonite Church Canada and Manitoba

Camps with Meaning is looking for a volunteer nurse for the ADV Winter Retreat at Camp Assiniboia February 20-22. If you or someone you know can help in any way please call 896-1616 ext. 254 or email sklassenkoop@mennochurch.mb.ca

Camps with Meaning camper registration is now open for all three locations! For details visit www.campswithmeaning.org

Save the date! The Camps with Meaning "Raise the Roof" Song-a-thon will be March 18th from 1-9 PM!

Camps with Meaning staff and volunteer applications are now available at www.campswithmeaning.org/summer/camp-staff

Justice and peace in Palestine and Israel: a gathering in follow-up to Mennonite Church Canada's resolution on Palestine and Israel, passed in July. If you are interested in moving the resolution forward or want to know more about what the resolution means for our churches, please join us for: a) fellowship around Palestinian snacks; b) updates from the national working group assigned to the resolution; c) information on MCC's advocacy on Palestine and Israel; d) discussion about avenues for awareness and action in our congregations. Wednesday, February 15, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Home Street Mennonite Church, 318 Home Street. For more information call Carolyn Epp-Fransen (204 488-6354) or Byron Rempel-Burkholder (204 831-5207).

Mennonite Church Manitoba gathering will be happening at Emanuele Church in Winkler over March 3,4. March 3rd will have worship and March 4th will have business.

New documents outlining the re-vitalization of Mennonite Church Canada and Area Churches as a result of our Future Directions process have been posted at futuredirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal.

Pilgrimage for Indigenous Rights: Save the date – April 23 – May 14 – to join all or part of a 600 km Pilgrimage from Kitchener-Waterloo to Ottawa stopping at 21 churches and engaging in teach-ins, all in support of Canada's implementation of UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples). Web site and resources to come.

Resource links have been added to the statement and call to prayer released by MC Canada in response to the deadly mosque attack in Quebec on Jan. 28: news.mennonitechurch.ca/call-prayer-deadly-mosque-attack-quebec. Please continue to uphold in prayer the victims, their families, and their communities.

Save the date: Mennonite Church Canada delegates are invited to a special assembly Oct. 13-15 in Winnipeg, Man. The event will begin with a dinner on Friday and conclude with worship on Sunday. The venue, costs, and other details are pending. More info to come.

Featured prayer request from the wider church (to receive regular prayer requests, subscribe to PrayerNet at: www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/59/7507): Water is essential to life. For Indigenous peoples, that makes water sacred. Pray that the Holy Spirit will stir our communities to discern what the protection of sacred waters and defence of Indigenous land rights means to all of us. Pray for those seeking to protect water sources along the path of the Dakota pipeline at Standing Rock in North Dakota. For a deeper understanding of these issues, see the latest issue of *Intotemak, Yours, Mine, Ours: Unravelling the Doctrine of Discovery* (<http://www.commonword.ca/go/974>).

Westgate Mennonite Collegiate

Westgate Mennonite Collegiate is now accepting applications (Grades 6-12) for the 2017-18 school year. Applications are available on the Westgate website (www.westgatemennonite.ca) or by calling the school at [204-775-7111](tel:204-775-7111).

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Thoughts on Worship

Because we live most of the time in a culture preoccupied with the ego and the small self, we all need to be reminded of how the culture of Christian faith is different. Each week, we need to hear once again why we have come. We need words that are direct and concrete to usher us into an alternative time and space.

In worship we come not to succeed and be noticed, not to achieve or to prove ourselves. We come rather to lose ourselves. We come to die to all our petty concerns and fears and to be submerged once again into the being and the story of God, so that we may rise to new life in Christ. We come to return to the source of true joy and sustenance.

Christian worship is a counter-cultural activity, and it requires clear signals and rituals if it is to draw us out of the culture of narcissism. Preparing ourselves for worship requires disciplined work. To the outsider, it may seem a strange and unnecessary activity. But when we finally arrive and settle in, we will surely remember why we have come.

Scott Brubaker-Zehr, from "Receiving before Responding" Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology, Fall 2005, Vol 6, No 2