



## Bulletin

February 19, 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 19

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

### Sunday, February 26

There will be story sharing, Raya is worship leading, Curt W & Laura P are leading music, and Pat is greeting. We will be celebrating communion together.

### On The Way To Sunday

My intentions and beliefs and pontificating about community don't matter one iota if I am not engaged in living out the reality of it.

- Sarah Bessey, *Out of Sorts*

To die for God is not a proof of faith in God. To die for an unknown and repulsive convict who is a victim of injustice, that is a proof of faith in God.

- Simone Weil, *The Simone Weil Reader*

## Hope News

Notes about Hope's Steering Committee: If you ever want to know more about what goes on at Steering, feel free to ask for minutes of the meetings; they are a matter of public record. Also, speak with, or email, steering members at any time about personal or church concerns, suggestions, inspirations, or criticisms. (Barry H, Marianne S, Daniel, Lisa and Lynell). We protect the confidentiality of people who bring up concerns by not making meetings completely open, but if you want to attend part of a meeting to speak about a specific thing, we can certainly make arrangements for that. Thank you!

Hope is part of Recovery of Hope's (RoH) CARE plan – meaning counselling service are available, through RoH, paid for by Hope Mennonite. You can go directly to RoH – they will bill the church. This same financial offer is also available for other counsellors (\$60/session, for up to 6 sessions). Please talk to Lynell to make these arrangements.

## Canadian Mennonite University

On Wednesday, April 5 plan to attend **Spring at CMU** – an evening fundraiser in support of CMU's mission and programs. The CMU PAX Award will be presented to Sarah Thompson, Executive Director of Christian Peacemaker Teams, and we will celebrate the leadership of the Capital Campaign Cabinet in constructing Marpeck Commons. Go to [cmu.ca/springatcmu](http://cmu.ca/springatcmu) for more information.

Xplore: Keep Thinking: enrol in CMU's 55-Plus Enrichment Program, offered Wednesday mornings at CMU from March 8 – April 12. Courses include **Introducing Hutterites Today** with Kenny Wollmann (Hutterite graduate student at CMU). For information and to enrol go to [cmu.ca/explore](http://cmu.ca/explore).

As people of peace in a world with much violence, CMU's **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](http://csop.cmu.ca) or [csop@cmu.ca](mailto:csop@cmu.ca).

Worship with us at **CMU Vespers**, a monthly worship service incorporating choral music, hymns, scripture, and prayer. 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 fasha! For more information visit [mccmb.ca/wintertreffen](http://mccmb.ca/wintertreffen).

**MCC Canada welcomes applications for Director of Finance** based in Winnipeg. Applications are accepted until March 15. For more information and to apply, please visit [mccmb.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/director-finance](http://mccmb.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/director-finance).

**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](mailto:katiefroese@mccmb.ca) or 204-925-1929.

**Book Launch: Out of Place** - Wednesday, March 1, 7 pm, 159 Henderson Hwy, Winnipeg  
MCC Low German Mennonite Services invites you to the book launch of Luann Good Gingrich's *Out of Place: Social Exclusion and Mennonite Migrants in Canada* at Sam's Place.

## Mennonite Church Canada and Manitoba

Sie sind herzlich eingeladen am Sonntagmorgen um 7.30 Uhr (CFAM / CHSM / CJRB) **Frohe Botschaft** einzuschalten, eine Sendung die von Mennonite Church Manitoba produziert wird. Im März bringt Prediger John H. Neufeld aus der Ersten Mennoniten Gemeinde eine Predigtserie.

*Please join us for **Frohe Botschaft**, a German language worship service produced by Mennonite Church Manitoba and broadcast on Sunday morning at 7:30 on CFAM / CHSM / CJRB. The speaker in March is Pastor John H. Neufeld from First Mennonite Church.*

Camps with Meaning camper registration is now open for all three locations! For details visit [campswithmeaning.org](http://campswithmeaning.org)

Save the date! The Camps with Meaning "Raise the Roof" Song-a-thon will be March 18th from 1-9 PM! [campswithmeaning.org/songathon](http://campswithmeaning.org/songathon)

Camps with Meaning staff and volunteer applications are now available at [campswithmeaning.org/summer/camp-staff](http://campswithmeaning.org/summer/camp-staff)

The Future Directions Proposal outlining the re-vitalization of Mennonite Church Canada and Area Churches has been posted at [futuredirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal](http://futuredirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal)

MCM Annual Delegate Gathering. Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Winkler. Worship open to all: March 3, 2017, 7:00pm-9:00pm. Business sessions: March 4, 2017, 8:30am-4:00pm. Schedule and Part 1 of the Report Book is available at [mennochurch.mb.ca/events](http://mennochurch.mb.ca/events)

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](http://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.

The Mennonite Heritage Centre including its Archive and Art Gallery programs, is being reorganized under a new partnership and name. Learn more by reading the joint news release: [tinyurl.com/jve78cs](http://tinyurl.com/jve78cs)

**Restore Us, O God!** is the 2017 Lent at home devotional booklet by Elsie Rempel. Follow the weekly themes of We Hunger, We Wonder, We Thirst, We See, We Breathe, We Hope—and finally on Easter—We Live! Free download at [commonword.ca/go/748](http://commonword.ca/go/748).

**Featured prayer request from the wider church** (to receive regular prayer requests, subscribe to PrayerNet at: [commonword.ca/ResourceView/59/7507](http://commonword.ca/ResourceView/59/7507)): On Feb. 25, MCBC leaders and delegates meet for their annual gathering. Pray for an overwhelming sense of God's presence as they discuss area church matters and engage in a final review of Future Directions proposals to re-organize national and area church bodies. Pray for MCA, MC Sask, and MCM as they prepare for their annual meetings in March, and for MCEC as they prepare for their meeting in April.

## Community

Lowe Farm Bergthaler Church invites you to take part in a Mission Fest weekend February 24-26. Beginning Friday evening at 7:30 pm Henry and Gerald Neufeld will be speaking. Saturday afternoon from 3 pm -5 pm, Steve Heinrichs will be leading the proceedings followed by a soup and bread supper at 5:30 pm with an evening concert at 7 pm with Kim Thiessen and Darryl Neustaedter Barg. Sunday morning church begins at 10:40 am with another message by Steve Heinrichs concluding with a potluck lunch. Please bring something for the potluck if you plan on attending. We hope to see you there.

## Contact Information

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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*