



Bulletin

March 5, 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, March 5

This is the beginning of our Lent series: Restore us, O God! We hunger. Jacqueline is worship leading, Rick is speaking, Anna S and Peter F are leading music, and Ellie is greeting. There will be **potluck** after the service.

Sunday, March 12

Second Sunday of Lent: Restore us, O God: We wonder. Lynell is speaking, Clare is leading worship, Jason H and Rachel K are leading music. Vivian is greeting.

On The Way To Sunday

When you eat, I want you to think of God, of the holiness of hands that feed us, of the provision we are given every time we eat. When you eat bread and you drink wine, I want you to think about the body and the blood every time, not just when the bread and wine show up in church, but when they show up anywhere— on a picnic table or a hardwood floor or a beach.

- Shauna Niequist, *Bread & Wine: A Love Letter to Life*
Around the Table with Recipes

We come to church hungry, Lord!
We are hungry for comfort,
hungry for love,
hungry for a new way of living,
hungry for your word.
Thank you for giving us this place
and this time to worship,
and we are eager to taste your goodness
in community, with our brothers and sisters.

- [Carol Penner](#)

Canadian Mennonite University

Prospective students (and their parents) - explore CMU on **Campus Visit Day Friday, March 10**. This is an opportunity to explore the campus, learn about CMU programs, attend a class, and interact with professors. For information go to cmu.ca/campusvisit.

Xplore: Keep Thinking: CMU's 55-plus enrichment program begins this week. It is still possible to register on line at cmu.ca/xplore or in person at the first class, Wednesday, March 8, 9:00 or 10:30 AM.

Want to encounter other cultures? Come hear fascinating stories and experience the diversity at the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding**. Courses run **June 12-16 and June 19-23, 2017** and are a great opportunity to experience an inspiring community of people gathered to learn about peace. For more information, go to csop.cmu.ca or email csop@cmu.ca. Apply by April 1 to avoid a \$50 late fee.

Don't miss one of CMU's performance highlights of the year! The CMU Opera/Musical Theatre Workshop presents their full production of **H.M.S. Pinafore, or The Lass That Loved a Sailor**. Gilbert and Sullivan's witty humour shines in this comic tale of love vs. rank, with performances from Thursday, March 9 to Saturday, Mar 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.

You are invited to **upcoming concerts** at CMU including

- **Bells and Whistles with Strings Attached**, April 2 at 7:00 PM in the Laudamus Auditorium, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd.
- **Jazz at CMU**, April 4 at 7:00 PM in the Great Hall, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd.
- The **Mennonite Community Orchestra**, CMU's Resident Orchestra, April 9 at 3:00 PM in the CMU Chapel, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd.

For more information see cmu.ca/events.

Mennonite Disaster Services

The annual Manitoba MDS Awareness & Fundraising Events are approaching. Come hear MDS stories from 2016 projects and plans for 2017 - especially, Fort McMurray. Please attend either the Arborg area supper at the Morweena E.M Church on APRIL 8th; or the Altona area event (Details to follow shortly) on APRIL 22nd. See the poster for details. Reserve your complimentary attendance by calling **MDS at 1-866-261-1274**.

Mennonite Central Committee

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 <http://mccmb.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/director-finance>.

Special Event: MCC in Haiti - *Wednesday, March 15, 7 pm, Winkler; Thursday, March 16, 7 pm, Winnipeg.* Join MCC Haiti Representative Rebecca Shetler Fast to hear about MCC's unique approach to respectful and sustainable faith-based international development work in Haiti. For location details and more information, please visit <http://mccmb.ca/events>.

IVEP Night - *Thursday, March 23, 7 pm, 159 Henderson Hwy, Winnipeg.* Every year we welcome young adults from around the world through MCC's International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP). Join us at Sam's Place as Winnipeg IVEP participants share a taste of their home countries: Bolivia, Germany and South Africa.

MCC Canada welcomes applications for MCC Canada Executive Director. Interested individuals are asked to apply online at <http://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/openings> by April 7. Any inquiries regarding this position can be sent to karengracepankratz@mcccanada.ca.

Mennonite Church Canada and Manitoba

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. Details at www.pfir.ca.

Those attending upcoming Area Church annual meetings will want to check out documents outlining the re-vitalization of Mennonite Church Canada and Area Churches as a result of our Future Directions process: futuredirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal.

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: commonword.ca/ResourceView/59/7507): March 10-11 MC Sask delegates, members, and guests will be gathering together with the theme of **Extending the Table: Enough for All**. Pray that the bread and the cup will nourish all who are present, and that it might be a time of hope and joy as we gather in the presence of the Spirit to discuss and worship together.

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 (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