



Mennonite Church Canada Witness: Witness worker on-demand for conflict-transformation presentations. During the first week of December, South Korea Witness worker **Bock Ki Kim** will do three presentations for groups of 300 teachers in several school districts.

The presentations will be about restorative justice and conflict transformation in a school setting. Bock Ki asks for your prayers as he introduces these ideas and practices into schools that are looking for a different way of functioning. May God's peace shine through him as he teaches.

News from our partners: Teachers with Mennonite Partners in China, including Witness worker **Tobia Veith**, have another month of classes and then final exams before their winter break. Please pray for them as they teach, mark papers and exams. Pray for the six North American student teachers that are doing this for the first time. Pray that the relationships being built with Chinese students will form bridges of peace between nations and cultures.

Video shares spirit of AIMM meetings in Burkina Faso: A new video from Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, gives a wonderful picture of the spirit of the meetings that Mennonite Church Canada was part of with AIMM in Burkina Faso this past month. It features images from church services, and videos of wonderful singing by the people who gathered and from the Angolan Mennonite Youth Choir. Please view here.

SEEDS Church is a community of 200+ people (young and old) that exists to make Jesus real. We are excited to celebrate our 20th birthday in January 2020 and as part of that milestone, our leadership has been engaging in conversations with our surrounding community on what Seed's next 20 years will be about, with a specific emphasis on how our church can engage and connect with the issues of our local community. The theme for this year is Fostering Relationships (with God, ourselves and others) and our hope is that we will grow and deepen in our relational connections. Please pray that our community conversations will lead to clarity and direction for our next steps to being a representation of God's Kingdom in Altona and surrounding area.

Charleswood Mennonite Church Affirmation Statement (Approved June 9, 2019)

Charleswood Mennonite Church is rooted in the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition as a community of faith committed to becoming the body of Christ.

We welcome all persons to worship and participate with us. We acknowledge the image of God in every person including those of every gender identity and sexual orientation. We invite all to participate in our congregation's practices such as baptism, church membership, church leadership, and marriage. We lament the prejudice and discrimination found in society and in the church, and we commit to holding each other accountable to the teachings and example of Jesus Christ.

We celebrate and affirm all persons worshiping with us. Together we seek to be a pilgrim community of mission, service, hospitality, grace, healing, justice, peace, and love.

CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH

December 8, 2019

Education Hour 9:30 am ~ Worship Service 10:45 am

Worship Leader: Sheila Klassen-Wiebe

Speaker: Ramon Rempel

Story Teller: Jonathan Claassen

Song Leader: Ann Koop Hunsberger

Ushers: Kim & Tom Ewert

Pianist: Adelaide Fransen

Advent 2: Peace

God hears our desire for a just world and calls to us in return with words of peace. Can we hear God's invitation to join God's Kingdom of justice? Can we receive God's offer of peace? God calls us to repent, pay attention, and embrace God's vision for a peaceable creation.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and introductions

Call to Worship

One: Oh God, our God, in Advent anticipation, we come to you.

Many: **We long for a world bathed in righteousness, where the poor are defended and the needy are satisfied. We look to you to make creation harmonious and to call the oppressor to account.**

One: We imagine a peaceable world, where your love, mercy and justice rule.

All: *God, what are you waiting for?*

Prayer

Songs: HWB 174

Bless'd be the God of Israel

SS 4

Rejoice, rejoice the Saviour comes

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATHS

Responsive Reading

Leader: The God of steadfastness and encouragement calls us to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

People: **Harmony with one another, harmony with our neighbours, harmony with our world and creation.**

Leader: Just as Christ has welcomed us, we are called to welcome one another.

People: **We are called to embrace God's vision of a world shaped by mercy rather than inequity.**

Leader: God desires to fill us with all joy and peace in believing that it may be so.

All: *With the power of the Holy Spirit, may it be so.*

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Song

O Long-Awaited (Phil Campbell Enns)

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 1:76-79

Story

Song: HWB 176 *Comfort, comfort, O my people*

Scripture: Judges 7:1-8; Philemon 12-19

Sermon

RESPONDING

Song: SS 9 *As the pauper waits for plenty*

Offering our Financial Resources

Offering our Prayers

GOING OUT TO SHARE GOD'S PEACE

Announcements

Song: HWB 367 *For the healing of the nations*

Benediction

~ Please return hymnbooks to the shelves at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you. ~

CHURCH FAMILY NOTES

Game Night: Are you between the ages of 3 and 103? Do you enjoy socializing with fellow church members? Do you enjoy (or at least tolerate) board games? If so, this announcement is for you! Join us at church twice a month on Friday evenings to play board games. Doors open at 6:30pm. Bring your favorite board game, arrive when you can and bring snacks, if you like. Friday evenings will include Jan. 17 & 31, Feb. 14 & 28, March 13 & 27, April 10 & 24. Hope to see you there!

~ Janice Dueck & Milton Friesen

Mitten Tree: During this season of Advent you are invited to bring warm mittens (especially snow- and soak-proof ones), toques and neck-warmers for the Mitten Tree to be donated to Sister MacNamara Elementary School, nursery-grade 6 (where Vern Klassen-Wiebe works).

Singers: You are invited to sing in the choir for the Charleswood Mennonite Church Christmas Eve service (Dec. 24, 6:30 pm). We will share the Christmas narrative and rejoice in music and word at God's gift of hope for the world. The practices will be on Thur., Dec. 19 from 7-9 pm, Sun., Dec. 22 from 9:30-10:30 am, and Mon., Dec. 23 from 7:30-9:00 pm. Contact Bob or Verna Wiebe in person or at bobwiebe@mymts.net to indicate your interest. Thank you.

THIS WEEK

- **Tue, 12:00 noon – LADIES' LUNCH OUT** at the CORAs (840 Waverley). As is our tradition, please bring a toonie gift for a fun exchange as well as non-perishables for Winnipeg Harvest. Come have some fun! RSVP to Wendy 204-896-5057 or Marlene 204-895-7686. All ages welcome.
- **Tue & Fri, 10:30 am – CMC Exercise Group**

- **Sat, 10:00 am-noon – Rehearsal for Sunday School Christmas worship service.** All children in children's choir (grades 1-6) and those who have acting parts should plan to attend.

COMING EVENTS

• NEXT SUNDAY

10:45 am – Sunday School Christmas Worship Service

Noon – Fellowship Potluck Lunch. Ham will be provided. Please bring: Surnames beginning with...

A-G	Potato Dish (scalloped / potato casserole / mashed)
H-Z	Vegetable Dish
ALL	Dessert

GROUP 3 is on Set-up & Clean-up

Becker, Ernie & Lucille
Epp-Fransen, Carlyne & Gordon
Friesen, Laura
Gerbrandt, Nathan & Angela
Guenther, Louise & Wexler, Daniel
Guenther-Wexler, Hannah
Klassen-Wiebe, Sheila & Vern
Kliwer, Carly & Nathan
Koop Hunsberger, Ann

Rempel, Jake & Jean
Rempel, Ramon
Smith, Michael & Val
Toews, Bernie & Iris
Walker, Gregg & Wiens, Elena
Wiebe, Alisa & Driedger, Bucky
Wiebe, Jeremy & Friesen, Sara Jane
Wiens, John & Justina
* Invitation to CMU students to assist

- **Dec 24 (Tue), 6:30 pm – Christmas Eve Service.** If you would like to sing in the choir, please see details in Church Family Notes.

MENNONITE CHURCH MANITOBA/CANADA & COMMUNITY

Westgate Mennonite Collegiate celebrates Christmas with an evening of music: Mon., Dec. 9, 7:00 pm at Westminster United Church (745 Westminster Ave).

Faith and Life Choirs Christmas Concert: Dec. 21, 7:00 pm at Bethel Mennonite Church. *O come, let us adore Him*, under the direction of Janet Brenneman and Ben Pauls. Come for an evening of festive singing. Freewill offering will be taken. For more information, please contact Stephanie Wenger office@mennochurch.mb.ca.

MBCI invites applications for Math Teaching Position (F/T term, Feb-Mar) – Contact jrogalsky@mcbi.mb.ca by Dec. 13. Details on bulletin board.

CHURCH BUDGET UPDATE

Donations budgeted to end of November	\$328,068
Actual donations to end of November	\$280,863
Shortfall as of end of November	\$47,205

- Ways to donate:**
1. Cheque or Cash
 2. Account transfer at Crosstown Credit Union
 3. Canada Helps website: canadahelps.org
 4. E-transfer. Talk to Keith or Milton for details

Luke 1:76-79

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.
By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.’ ♦

CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY (www.cmu.ca)

- * CMU's **Sunday@CMU Radio Program** features a series of Advent reflections by Dr. Paul Doerksen, Associate Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies, exploring key dimensions of the Advent season. Airs Sunday mornings 8:30-8:45 am on CFAM 950 and AM 1250. Programs can be accessed through the CMU website at cmu.ca/sundayatcmu.
- * **CMU Christmas Vespers:** Sun., Dec. 15, 7:00 pm in the Laudamus Auditorium. Sara Jane Schmidt will lead the choir and Cheryl Pauls will be the reader. A reception will follow. All are invited to attend. See cmu.ca/vespers.
- * Consider enrolling in a CMU Winter term, evening course. Options include *Issues in Youth Ministry*; *Principles of Biblical Interpretation*; *The Fifties & Sixties in North America: Cold, Cool and Radical*; and *Art of Peacebuilding...* and more. Significantly reduced audit rates available for Alumni and Seniors. Go to cmu.ca/timetable for details.
- * Prayers are invited for CMU students as they write exams to complete their Fall Semester courses.
- * CMU will be closed Dec. 24, 2019 to Jan. 1, 2020, re-opening January 2, with Winter Semester classes beginning on Jan. 6.

MCC - MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MANITOBA/CANADA

- * Give a life-changing gift this year from the **Christmas Giving Catalogue** - the chance to sew, the gift of hope, art supplies or wriggly worms. Teach your little ones to give a gift that will make a difference. Turn a fun Sunday School lesson into a meaningful Christmas Giving project. Call 204-261-6381 for more info.
- * **Interested in sponsoring refugees?** MCC is accepting Expression of Interest applications starting Jan. 1-31. While it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the number of people in need, there are ways you can get involved and make a difference. Click the link below to visit MCC Manitoba's Migration and Resettlement Program or to fill out an application.