

WHITEWATER MENNONITE CHURCH

April 10 - 12rd, 2020

GOOD FRIDAY - EASTER SUNDAY

BULLETIN

FROM THE PASTOR'S Desk:

- ❖ **Holy Week** - The Holy Week remembrance and worship I've laid out is quite simple, and I encourage you to keep it simple. Don't add in all the greatest resources and Televised services you can because you can. Don't heap up words and experiences. Remember rightly (read carefully and ponder deeply), celebrate, worship well, with sincere, longing hearts. That is enough.

Maundy Thursday -

9:00 - pray for salvation from Covid-19

Around suppertime - Jn 13:1-17 - Foot-washing

Bonus: Read through Jesus' farewell speech to his friends in Jn 13:18-17:26

Right before bed Jn 18:1-16

Good Friday -

First thing - Peter & religious trial - Read Jn 18:17-28

9:00- pray for salvation from Covid-19. Then Read Jn 18:29-19:3

12:00 - Crucifixion - Jn 19:4-25a

3:00 - Death - Jn 19:25b-30

Before supper - Burial - Jn 19:31-42

MCCan Easter Service - <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/worshipservices>

Holy Saturday

9:00 - pray for salvation from Covid-19.

Practice fasting and waiting with urgency.

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* (from Book of Common Prayer, BoCP)

Resurrection Sunday

Easter Sunrise service: At home during a pandemic

Materials:

Bible

Alarm set for however much time you need before 6:53am

Joyful heart or, if this is lacking, a scared, longing heart

View to the East

* Campfire, Deviled eggs, Paska (& your favorite icing/frosting) * *denotes optional*

Setup:

If you are able, fast from 3:00pm on Good Friday

Set the fire lay (and the alarm) the night before

Print this out or open on your tablet/phone

Order:

A song of your choosing.

Heather likes "Low in the Grave He lay."

However, the Goertzen's may actually pull off "Praise God from Whom."

Matthew 28

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* (BoCP)

Your own prayers of gratitude and bewilderment

Jesus is alive! Neither, temple rulers, nor Ceasar's minions, nor age nor illness can hold him down.
His program, his good reign is without end.

Hallelujah! Hosana! (save us) . . . Maranatha! Come quickly to help us!

Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

Let the bravest among you give the benediction, then break your fast with feasting, rejoicing, and a walk outdoors. Please take a photo of your sunrise service and share it!

6:55 or so: Sunrise

Break your fast!

9:00 pray for salvation from Covid-19

10:30 Joint Community Service - BMBC Youtube page

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAEkQ7aCFIGLRGd3d5za2FQ>

*Note that we're making space for Communion, so have the elements set out if you plan to participate.

- ❖ Bible Reading: Monday, April 13: Deuteronomy 2-3, John 10, Psalm 78
- ❖ Current Covid-19 updates, Manitoba Health's website. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/>
- ❖ Here is a story with graphics that explain the 'why' of quarantine and social distancing.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/corona-simulator/>
- ❖ Boissevain Ministerial: - Suggesting 9 am prayers for health, community, nation, world.



Foot Washing:

During the community Easter service online, Communion will be facilitated (be prepared in heart and hand.) So, Thursday, *tonight*, I invite you to wash each other's feet in your homes. I understand, that for some of you this invitation pokes at a serious dilemma you find yourself in. You're alone in your house. Wash your own feet, soak them. Feet can be kinda nasty and neglected, but they are integral members to the body. In Jesus' time, the lowliest of servants stooped to do this washing. Whether it's your feet, your spouses, or your stinky three year old's feet. Wash 'em, soak them recounting Jesus' profoundly humble service to your humblest parts.

Stewardship: Please drop offering envelopes in **Peter Neufeld's** mailbox. Bills need to be paid.

PRAYER, PRAISE, BLESSINGS & REFLECTION

- Health, healing, comfort:
- Condolences: **Joan West** on the passing of sister, Donna.
- Communicate with residents @ **Evergreen & Westview** via I-Pad.
To make arrangements and connect: **Westview** - 204 534 2455, **Evergreen** - 204 534 3337
- For all those in care, first responders, our political leaders, small business owners, employees both laid off and working.



- ✚ April: 9 ~ Maundy Thursday, 10 ~ Good Friday, 12 ~ Easter
- ✚ Return to normal church scheduling is directly related to government guidelines.

COMMUNITY AND YONDER:

Ω For Services, Sermons & other, visit: MCCA <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/worshipservices>
MCM <https://mennochurch.mb.ca/>

CMU Spring @ CMU: cmu.ca/springatcmu

CJRB April 12 @ 2pm

- Ω **MCMb Executive Minister Search Committee** invites prayers as potential candidates for this Mennonite Church Manitoba position consider whether to apply.
- Ω **Doug Klassen** (MC Canada Executive Minister) and Glen Guyton (MC USA Executive Director) have published [a letter of encouragement](#) to constituents this week during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ω Mennonite Collegiate Institute 'MCI': New Leadership team ~ **Harold Schlegel**-Executive Director, **Toby Wiens** - Acting Principal, **Paul Peters**- Director of Student Life. See attached letter below.
- Ω MCC Manitoba Thankyou video from Darryl Loewen has a Boissevain connection:
<https://mcc.thankview.com/video/5e8ce51e84b24/whitewater-mennonite-church>
- Ω White Heart movement: mennochurch.mb.ca/article/8837-whiteoutmb-karen-and-moses-start-a-movement
- Ω **Boissevain Health Centre**: looking for volunteers to help with front door screening:
Contact Brooklynn Hole – 204 305 9066, brooklynn_1998@hotmail.com

Anyone who has grown mentally, physically, or spiritually knows that growth is not found in comfort." Unknown

Letter from Mennonite Collegiate

Dear Church Partners,

Your congregation is a valuable part of the MCI Community. We want to keep you informed about developments at your school. Here are a few highlights.

Early in March, a new leadership team was put into service. Gerald Barkman resigned due to health concerns. The board appointed Harold Schlegel as Executive Director and Toby Wiens as Acting Principal, with Paul Peters, continuing as Director of Student Life. Please hold us in your prayers as we seek to guide MCI through these challenging times.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we do not want to lose sight of several encouraging developments: The Musical "Annie" was a resounding success. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported from afar. Student applications for September 2020 already match the number of students currently enrolled. Financial gifts to the school were up substantially in 2019.

Even though students are not physically on campus, we continue to pursue our mission in several key ways: Our teachers are creatively engaging students to accomplish educational success.

Student Life Staff are effectively using social media to foster a sense of Christian community. Daily virtual chapels have been shared on our YouTube channel. We encourage you to have a look and experience them first-hand.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCp6Shap5KVNoeMSQ5TekWeA?view_as=subscriber

The 'indefinite suspension of classes' and the closure of our dorm for the foreseeable future, create many uncertainties. Many of our support staff have been 'furloughed' and are applying for government support to replace employment income. We recognize that many of our donors are also feeling the effect of this crisis. MCI cannot afford to finish the year with a deficit. We wonder how the pandemic will affect future enrollment. There are many unanswered questions.

In times such as this, we place our trust in the One who holds the future. Please join us in praying for MCI. Pray for our students, our staff and our supports. Pray that God's will be done in us, through us and among us. Many of you are leading services online. Please also consider sharing the following prayer requests (perhaps one/week) and including us in your congregational prayer time:

Please pray for MCI as they navigate the COVID-19 storm. Pray for students and staff of MCI, and all our schools, who are discovering new ways to teach and learn.

Please pray for MCI as they navigate the COVID-19 storm. Pray for staff as they develop creative ways to foster Christian community and build faith with students, even though they are not on campus together.

Please pray for MCI as they navigate the COVID-19 storm. Pray for the new leadership team Harold Schlegel, Executive Director; Toby Wiens, Acting Principal; Paul Peters, Director of Student Life. Pray also for Gerald Barkman, who stepped down due to health concerns.

Please pray for MCI as they navigate the COVID-19 storm. Pray for wisdom as school leaders face difficult decisions. We pray God's blessing on you and your congregation, as you observe the sacred Easter season, in these days of unprecedented turmoil.

Sent on behalf of, **Harold Schlegel** Executive Director

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

As Voices Together is undertaking permissions work (seeking copyright contracts) in this period between January and June, we offer a song and a worship resource that may speak into the disorientation of these days of COVID-19. The following excerpt from the forthcoming Voices Together "Worship Leader Edition" frames some of the gifts received when worshipping with voices from the past:

"Connecting with the past in worship today is a way to remember God's faithfulness to all generations. It is a way to join our local communities with a vibrant church that has followed Jesus in diverse cultures and circumstances. It is a way to keep the struggles of the present in perspective. Recognizing God's faithfulness throughout a history marked by constant change can free us from a fear of change and a fear of the future."

Everlasting God, On You I Call is a new song adapted from a (13-stanza) song by Annelein of Freiburg, a 16th century Anabaptist, martyred for her faith in 1529. Susan Dengler adapted Annelein's text in 2019. Voices Together pairs these words with a new tune (ANNELEIN'S PRAYER) by Anneli Loepp Thiessen. May Annelein's prayer offer comfort and sustenance as we abide in God's love in these chaotic days.

Prayer for Healing is a new worship resource written for Voices Together by the Mennonite Worship and Song Committee.

Everlasting God, On You I Call

ANNELEIN'S PRAYER 9.8.8.8

1 Ev - er - last - ing God, on you I call. Oh, may I
2 Un - to you, I raise my wear - y soul. In tri - als,
3 When I walk through death, I am sus - tained. I know you'll

nev - er turn from you; and keep me in your
I am in your care. In sor - row, tor - ture,
al - ways be my guide. E - ter - nal God, I

grace and truth, my strength and shield till life is through.
fear, and want, still I'm as - sured that you are there.
cry to you. For - ev - er keep me by your side.

Text: based on the writings of Annelein of Freiburg (present-day Germany), 16th c.; Susan Naus Dengler (USA), © 2019 Susan Naus Dengler
Music: Anneli Loepp Thiessen (Canada), © 2019 Anneli Loepp Thiessen

Prayer for Healing

Individuals may choose to join the leader in speaking any or all of the lines in bold.

Leader: Great Physician,
you touched the lives of the sick and the troubled;
your hands rested on bodies in crisis;
your words soothed broken hearts.
We call on you today, O God,
because we need your healing.

People: **When we have pain, bring relief.**
When we are disoriented, bring clarity.
When we confront disease or brokenness, bring healing.
When we wait for tests or news, bring patience.
When we live with barriers, bring courage.
When we are bound by addiction, bring freedom.
When illness separates us from others, bring friendship.
When we cannot make ends meet, help us.

Leader: You are with us in loneliness, bringing comfort.
You are with us in despair, bringing hope.
You are the God who cares and heals.

Mennonite Worship and Song Committee, 2020

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