

PRAYER, PRAISE, BLESSINGS & REFLECTION

WMC FAMILY...Sharon Engbrecht

Health, healing, comfort:

...Baby Nyla (Marg K), Esther (Betty A's sister), Karen Klassen (Rita E's sister), Lynette Stow, Chars and Marc Willerton

...Students, staff and parents as summer holidays end and a new school year begins

Praying for MCM Churches: Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church

The Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church has been a steady presence in the town of Altona for a long time. In recent years our Venture Clubs, Youth Ministry, and Community Meal initiative are ways that we serve our community by God's love. The pandemic has encouraged changes to our worship and congregational life including the practice of "brunch church" and "ABC conversations," in which we interview someone from the church as a way to get to know each other and explore the ways the Holy Spirit is at work in our midst. This summer, some of us travelled to Matheson Island to explore the possibility of developing a partnership which could include jointly facilitating a week of summer camp for kids at the island. We invite your prayers for our discernment around this possibility.

Fall Series: Finding God's Calling all around us.

As the new school year begins, we seek to become better seekers, better listeners, more intimate partners with God and one another. We'll attempt this by looking at the prepositions¹ that tie us into God's story.

I am called
by God
to follow
as I am
from grief
for service
in suffering
through others
within God.

¹ (*preposition* -noun. A small connecting word)
Kathleen Cahalan, *The Stories We Live*,

Whitewater Mennonite Church



September 10th, 2023

Communion

Worship Leader: Bernie Tiessen

Music: George & Catherine Heide

Sermon: Prepositions of Calling
Pastor Wes Goertzen

“The place God calls you is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” --Frederick Beuchner

1 Samuel 3:1-11 NRSV

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; **3** the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. **4** Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” **5** and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. **6** The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” **7** Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. **8** The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. **9** Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” **11** Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. . .

Testimony: We are inviting you to share with us experiences of God’s calling in your life. Talk to Lorraine R or Matt H to find a Sunday to share

Pastor: Wes Goertzen
Office: 204 534 2996
Cell: 204 305 0665

Ministers: The Congregation
Custodians: Matt & Heather Heide 534 3270
Administration: Phone: 534 6889

Email: whitewaterpastor@gmail.com Email: wmc.office.1927@gmail.com

We acknowledge our presence on the traditional lands of the Cree, Ojibway, Dakota and Metis nations.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

September 16 – Kay Stow’s funeral at WMC 2pm

September 17 – Potluck and congregational meeting

September 23 – 50 years of MAF Canada (Invitation below)

Steve Bell Concert in support of Westman Youth for Christ, Sunday September 24th at 7pm, McDiarmid Drive Alliance Church. Tickets are \$25. Call YFC at 204-727-1251 or visit www.stevebell.com/events

Join MAF on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 6-9pm at the Royal Aviation Museum in Winnipeg, MB as we celebrate 50 years of MAF Canada! Bring family and friends (adults only please), dessert and refreshments will be provided. Space is limited. Please rsvp by Sept.11 by calling toll-free at 1-877-351-9344 or emailing events@mafca.org.

MCC Manitoba’s in-person AGM will be on Thursday, September 28 from 7:00-7:30pm. You and your congregation are invited to join our brief meeting which will focus on required business items including audited financial statements and amendments to bylaws. In lieu of a keynote speaker, the AGM will take place during the MCC Manitoba Open House. Accredited voting delegates must register in order to vote during the meeting; please register by Tuesday, September 26 at mccm.org/events.

Resource for church leaders! MCC Manitoba will be leading a full-day workshop in [Pastoral Care and Domestic Violence workshop](#) on Wednesday, October 25 at the Best Western Plus in Winkler, MB. This workshop will offer training and conversation on how to offer practical and spiritual care in situations of intimate partner abuse. Visit mcc.org/events for full information and register at <mailto:resource@genesis-house.ca>.

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 17 for [We Are All Treaty People Celebration](#), 1-4pm at Forks Centre Field in Winnipeg. Come out for an afternoon of music and dance by Indigenous and non-Indigenous performers, information about Treaties, Indigenous arts and crafts, free food, family-friendly games and fun! For more event information visit mcc.org/events.