PRAYER, PRAISE, BLESSINGS & REFLECTION

WMC FAMILY...Dyck, John A & Hedy

Health, healing, comfort:

...Dave Reimer & family, Esther (Betty A's sister), Joan West, Art Peters (Jake Neufeld's brother-in-law)

Praying for our Congregations – Altona Mennonite Church gathers weekly for robust worship, and they are fortunate to have several artists and musicians that enhance this tradition. From meditative prayer services to the more traditional, they like to experiment, be creative, and use all their senses. Last fall they began a worship series called "Stories that Shape Us," using the new Peace Table storybook Bible to shape their services to promote faith formation for all ages. They have since moved through much of Genesis and Exodus, and they have had a lot of fun revisiting "classic Sunday school stories" in ways that are both playful and seriously theologically engaging. They invite our prayers as they continue to learn and grow together in faith through worship each Sunday, and that they may be challenged to see how they might attend to the needs of those in their community.

WMC's Identity Statement:

'With our feet firmly planted in our Anabaptist and Mennonite beginning, we work to reach out with our hands to welcome and lift up all who come here. We encourage one another with the heart of Christ to learn and to grow in spiritual maturity and to take amazing risks for God'

We acknowledge our presence on the traditional lands of the Cree, Ojibway, Dakota and Metis nations. We recognize that we are all guests on this land and will be mindful of our impact as we critically look at colonial histories and present-day implications. We acknowledge this as a first step in fulfilling our responsibility and commitment to truth and reconciliation.

Whitewater Mennonite Church

a pure heart,

O God,

and renew a

steadfast spirit

within me.

Psalm 51:10

March 17th, 2024

Music: Clarice & Ellen Martens

Worship Leader: Don Engbrecht

Sermon: Lorraine Reimer
"Broken Spirit, Contrite Heart"

Psalm 51:1-12 NRSV

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.
- **2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- **3** For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.
- **5** Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- **6** You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- **7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- **8** Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- **9** Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
- **10** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Pastor: Wes Goertzen **Ministers:** The Congregation

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Announcements and Upcoming Events

March 20 - Prayer meeting for WMC at 9am, Salvation Study at 10am

March 20 - MEAT: A Healthy Online Discussion (featuring Clare Martens!)
7:30pm livestream at WMC (info below)

March 31 - Easter Sunday breakfast together 9am, details to come

April 6 - Youth Orbit at MCI

April 11 - WMC Mission Sale 7pm

April 14 - Light the Fire Camps with Meaning event - details below

MCM Mondays. Mar 18, 7:30pm on Zoom. These sessions are meant for everyone in the congregation who is interested in the topic. "Pastoral Models – can we imagine other options?". Many congregations are seeing the need and value in finding more shared and alternate models of leadership. We urge congregations who are currently searching for pastoral leadership to be a part of this event that will be hosted by Karen Schellenberg - Co-Director of Leadership Ministries.

<u>www.mennochurch.mb.ca/mcmmondays</u> for more info and the Zoom link.

MEAT: A Healthy Online Discussion will be livestreamed from church at 7:30pm on Wednesday, March 20th. Please see link for details: https://canadianmennonite.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=9

Light the Fire Launch Party. Your Camps with Meaning Capital Campaign is launching on April 14, 2024, 7:00pm, at Alloway Hall at the Manitoba Museum. Sign up for free tickets and more info on the project at www.lightthefire.ca

In this season of Lent, pilgrims in 125 cities are mapping the length of the Gaza Strip onto their bodies by walking in prayerful solidarity with the people of Gaza. Join Winnipeg's walk on Saturday, March 16. It begins in the Medicine Garden at St. John's Park, 1 Fowler St., at 7:30 a.m. For more info: www.gazaceasefirepilgrimage.com

Camps with Meaning. Summer Bible camp for kids finished Gr. 1 - Gr. 12.

Two locations: Camp Assiniboia; Camp Koinonia.