



## Bulletin

May 17, 2020

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, May 17

Molly S is leading worship, Lynell is speaking, Eric S is Zoom host and Laura P is leading music.

We are going to begin with an Adult Bible Study, with the book *Beyond our Fears: Following Jesus in Times of Crisis*, at 9:30. Copies of the book, along with an accompanying children's book, will be sent out to everyone via email. We will end the Bible Study no later than 10:15, to give a short break before the service starts at 10:30.

The question that this study will grapple with is one of preparation. We are not going to learn about gardening or canning, but rather we will examine our Christian faith, and wonder together how we can be faithful in times of crisis.

### Sunday, May 24

We'll be giving thanks for pets, wild animals and farm animals.

I'm inviting kids and youth to help out quite a bit with the service

**A. Parents of Children and youth:** please get back to me with one of the following possibilities from your kids, so we can include their words in the service:

1. The name of your pet and one or two sentences about what's special about them.

or

2. Choose one favourite animal, tell me what's special about it in 1 or 2 sentences.

Please also encourage your children and youth to draw / sculpt their favourite pet or animal, which they will be able to show during the service, May 24th.

**B. Adults:** If you'd like your pet to be blessed in the service, please tell me the name of your pet and one or two sentences about what's special about them!

## Hope News

You are invited to join coffee time with Lynell on Wed at 7:00. We have a short time of prayer at the beginning, and then visit with each other.

Are you interested in joining Hope? There is a group of four people joining on May 31, but we are open to having another sharing/membership service sometime soon. Talk to Lynell if you are interested.

**Hope Mennonite welcomes full participation of people who hold a variety of beliefs and practices with regards to spirituality and theology. Our Covenant says that we desire to be “hospitable to those with differing beliefs.”**

## CommonWord

### **CommonWord online service continues during the pandemic**

Self-isolation should not mean a lack of reading material. Visit [www.commonword.ca](http://www.commonword.ca) to explore over 13,000 resources. You can also pick up a Herald Press title – for sale or loan at [www.commonword.ca/go/heraldpress](http://www.commonword.ca/go/heraldpress).

## MC Manitoba and MC Canada

**The MCM Executive Minister Search Committee invites your prayers.** We will be interviewing Executive Minister candidates in late May, checking references and then discerning our recommendation to the MCM Board. Please pray that God’s Spirit will guide the entire process and the choice that is made.

## Canadian Mennonite University

CMU continues to offer **Wednesday Webinars** for prospective students and parents, with the upcoming webinar entitled **Money Matters**. Join others online as you learn how to apply and qualify for CMU grants and bursaries, as well as how to access government financial programs (including more recent COVID-19 related opportunities). **Wednesday, May 20, from 2:00–3:00 PM CDT.** [www.cmu.ca/campusvisit](http://www.cmu.ca/campusvisit)

Three **CMU varsity athletes have earned Academic All-Canadian Honours**. Tiegen Kroeker (Soccer), Jana Klassen (VB) and Carter Hofer (VB) were all recognized by the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Conference for maintaining an academic grade-point-average of at least 3.70 this past academic year. Fewer than 200 student-athletes from across Canada were listed in this class of excellence. [media.cmu.ca/story-blazers2020allcanadianhonours](http://media.cmu.ca/story-blazers2020allcanadianhonours)

**CMU Professor publishes book of sermons.** Chris Huebner, Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy, recently published **Suffering the Truth: Occasional Sermons and Reflections**, a series of 16 sermons and reflections structured around the liturgical calendar. This highly accessible collection speaks into the lives of everyday people of faith, and is available for purchase or loan through the CommonWord Book and Resource Centre. [www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/22105](http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/2/22105)

## Mennonite Central Committee

Join us for an online dialogue with farmers and eaters on food security amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Germinating Conversations is hosting a virtual event on May 21st at 7pm. To learn more or RSVP visit [mcccanada.ca/get-involved/events/germinating-conversations-virtual-event](https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/events/germinating-conversations-virtual-event) or email [manitoba@arocha.ca](mailto:manitoba@arocha.ca) and a link will be sent to you.

Grow Hope by sponsoring an acre of farmland and help feed hungry people around the world. Follow this interactive guide to learn about global hunger and what you can do to help: [mcccanada.ca/media/resources/10782](https://mcccanada.ca/media/resources/10782)

Stay tuned! Later this week you will receive a special invitation to an exciting upcoming MCC webinar.

Itching to get outside? An MCC partner, SAKALA, has developed a peace education tool that youth are thrilled about—soccer! Watch the video and learn more at [mcccanada.ca/stories/playing-soccer-peace-cite-soleil](https://mcccanada.ca/stories/playing-soccer-peace-cite-soleil). Find more exciting resources and videos to keep you busy at [tiny.cc/Covid-19-Resources](https://tiny.cc/Covid-19-Resources).

## Westgate Mennonite Collegiate

### Westgate Spring Bursary Banquet - ONLINE Fundraiser!

We invite you to tune into the Westgate website ([www.westgatemennonite.ca](http://www.westgatemennonite.ca)) on **May 28th at 7:00pm** to watch a virtual event where you'll hear from students, staff and Westgate families. Please consider making a donation to the bursary fund and/or purchasing tickets to our online raffle.

[Purchase RAFFLE tickets](#) [Make a Direct Donation](#)

Bursaries remain our highest fundraising priority and we thank you for supporting many Westgate students and families!

## Contact Information

Lynell Bergen, Pastor  
[lynell@hopemennonite.ca](mailto:lynell@hopemennonite.ca)

Lisa Martens, Associate Pastor  
[lisa@hopemennonite.ca](mailto:lisa@hopemennonite.ca)

Office: <http://www.hopemennonite.ca/>

Carolyn Regehr, Office Administrator  
[admin@hopemennonite.ca](mailto:admin@hopemennonite.ca)

Vi Stoesz, Bookkeeper  
[books@hopemennonite.ca](mailto:books@hopemennonite.ca)

### **Steering Committee:**

Ruth Plett (chair)  
Sandy Koop Harder (treasurer)  
Adam Klassen Bartel  
Anna Schaefer  
Daniel Epp

## 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*