

CHRIST MORAVIAN CHURCH

In Essentials, Unity; In Non-Essentials, Liberty; In All Things, Love

Contact Us

Christ Moravian Church

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Church Secretary: Andrea

Executive Board

Chair: Alan Bartlett

Vice Chair: David Bennett

Secretary: Pat Holm

Bookkeeper: Bobbie Callander

Treasurer: Roger Lohrey

Spiritual Programs: Bernard Amiot, Donna Gordon, Alan Bartlett

Congregational Nurture: Cathie Queen, Don Kawchuk

Mission & Outreach: Donna Gordon, Martin Driver, Jody Gorai

Church Operations: David Bennett, Roger Lohrey, Jody Gorai

Finance: Pat Holm, Roger Lohrey

Church Elders

Bernard Amiot, Mary Anne Gates, Rev. Gohdes, Donna Gordon, Holly Heffernan, Arlene Kawchuk, Duncan McKerchar, Brian Pemberton, Gloria Taylor, Gloria Toole, Pat Wolff, Doug Zeck



Pastor's Pondering

Wow, this summer seemed to fly by. It seems like only a few days ago we were struggling to get through that long, cold, icy winter of 2017-18. And now we are planning fall activities and even looking ahead to events in November and December. What happened to the summer? Where did it go? Was I too busy to really enjoy the summertime days?

In my devotions this week, I re-visited some readings that urged the reader to "Live in the Present". This intention to "live in the present" seeks to slow one down, discover the joys of God's presence in the here and now, and feeling less rushed or hurried in life. One of the readings offered a thought from the author, John Indermark, from the book "Gospelled Lives". He writes:

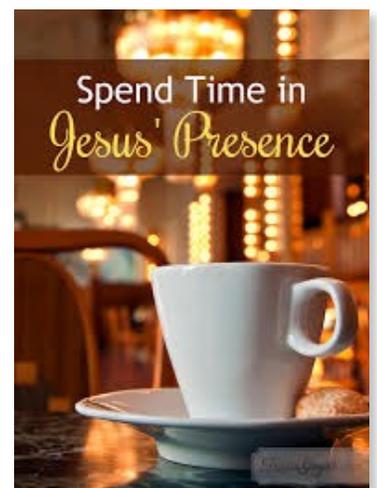
"Imagine Jesus has said he would join you for an hour today. Where would you most like Christ to be with you? What would you like to be able to do with Jesus? How might Christ's presence change something you do today? Imagine an hour with Jesus. Now... go ahead and do that for Christ is with you."

As I read this little paragraph I found myself slowing down, imagining Christ right here with me. Wanting something more for today than just busyness.

With these days of autumn before us, may we recognize the presence of Jesus at our side in each day. Maybe slowing down a little bit as fall arrives, as the leaves turn a different shade, as the days get a bit cooler, and as the schedules begin to fill up with commitments. Imagine just an hour or so saved for the relationship we share with Christ.

Blessings to all this autumn.

Pastor Steve Gohdes



NEWS & EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Sundays

Bible Study: Begins Sept 16, 9am
 Worship Service: 10:30 am
 Communion: 1st Sunday
 Noisy Offering: Last Sunday

September 2018

- 3 Labour Day, Office Closed
- 5 Women's Fellowship, 1:15pm
- 8 Men's Breakfast, 8:30am
- 9 Kick Off Sunday, 7th Heaven
- 11 Spiritual Companions, 1pm
- 12 Southwood Chapel, 9:30am
- 13 Canasta, 1pm
- 16 Sunday School Start, 10:30am
- 19 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 21 Mustard Seed Lunches, 1pm
- 26 Knitting/Crafts, 10:30-2:30pm
- 27 Canasta, 1 pm
- 28 Women's Tea, 1:30pm

October 2018

- 3 Women's Fellowship, 1:15pm
- 6 Men's Breakfast, 8:30am
- 6 Thanksgiving Decorating, 10am
- 7- 28 Food Bank Donations
- 7 Thanksgiving Service, 10:30am
- 10 Southwood Chapel, 9:30am
- 11 Canasta, 1 pm
- 12 - 13 7th Heaven Concert
- 17 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 20 Octoberfest Evening, 5:30pm
- 25 Canasta, 1pm
- 26 Women's Tea, 1:30pm
- 31 Knitting/Crafts, 10:30-2:30pm

SAVE THE DATES!

September 9: Kick Off Sunday

After a summer of travel and hosting visitors, this is a special worship time to get reacquainted with old church friends and make new ones. Music will be provided by Marty Antonini and Seventh Heaven. Remember to bring your special water jars to celebrate the presence of God in your "Living Waters". A lunch will be served following the service.

October 7 - 28: Thanksgiving Food Bank Collection

At this time of harvest and abundance we give thanks for all of our rich blessings. Please share these gifts by bringing in nonperishable food items for the Interfaith Food Bank. Look for the shopping cart in the entranceway.

**October 12 & 13: Marty Antonini and Seventh Heaven Fall Concert**

Join them at 7:30 pm at Christ Moravian Church for an evening of great music. Further details forthcoming or go to www.seventhheaven.info/events for updates.

October 20: CMC Octoberfest - Bratwurst, Beer & Entertainment

There is a new format and location for the popular Pig & Whistle. CMC will host a fall fellowship event at the hospitality room in the Newberry complex, 15 Everstone Drive SW. Watch for further details, or contact the church office. If you would like to help with this event, or you have a special talent to share on that evening, contact Don Kawchuck or Cathie Queen.

**April 27, 2019: CMC's 50th Anniversary!**

This important milestone for Christ Moravian Church will be a special time for us to look back and celebrate the people and accomplishments of our congregation since its inception 50 years ago. It will also be a time for us to look ahead to our future. Who are we as a church? What do we value? Where do we want to be in the next five, ten for even fifty years, and how will we get there?

We are looking for volunteers to help in this journey through participation in two committees. The "Celebration Committee" will attend to the planning of the 50th Anniversary Celebration(s). The "Visioning Committee" will examine who we are now as a church, and will make plans for our future. Whether you are a founding member or someone who has just found their way to CMC, your participation on one or both of these committees will be greatly valued. Please look for the sign-up sheets to join these committees or call the office. For more information speak with Pastor Gohdes, Donna Gordon or Bernard Amiot.



SPIRITUAL PROGRAMS

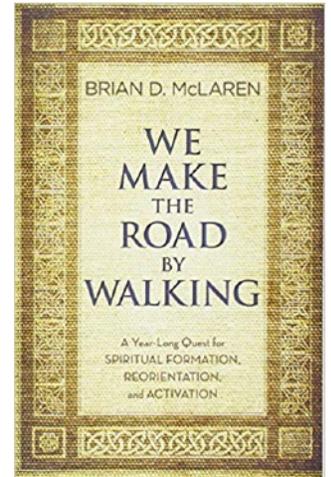
BIBLE / BOOK STUDY:

Sunday morning Bible study resumes September 16 from 9 to 10am. It has been decided to use Brian McLaren's book *"We Make the Road by Walking - A Year Long Quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation, and Activation"*. In this book Brian gives an overview of the Bible in a fresh way that invites different perspectives about the Bible to seek spiritual growth together. It encourages us to read the Bible with complete freedom to ask questions about its sources, development, internal tensions, biases, accuracy, cultural context and genre. Each reading invites us to:

- ✦ Cultivate an honest, intelligent understanding of the Bible and of Christian faith in the 21st century.
- ✦ Engage with discussion questions designed to challenge, stimulate, and encourage.
- ✦ Re-imagine what it means to live joyfully and responsibly in today's world as agents of God's justice, creativity, and peace.

This Bible study is open to anyone interested. Just show up at 9am on Sunday morning, or if you are interested in forming a group at a different time, please look for the sign up sheet in the front foyer. A time will be selected according to the schedules of those wishing to attend.

Books are available on Amazon and the Book Depository. Barb Ward and Pat Wollf also have a few extra copies.



SHARING OUR FAITH JOURNEY...



Our church is a wonderful place for fellowship and a spot to quietly or joyously worship. When we leave the sanctuary, though, most of us have coffee and catch up on what others are doing. Few of us talk about our relationship with God.

You may wonder, though, what's happening to each of us spiritually as we sit in the pews. Do we have doubts? Are we experiencing something really tough? Have we had one of those powerful God moments? Do we see God in a way that would clear up something for another? What has our individual faith journey been like? How are we finding ways to live it out?

The faith stories we hear at Advent move us, shake us and reassure us. But wouldn't it be wonderful to have an opportunity to speak openly and deeply about our faith experiences and our spirituality more often, in a small group, in confidence? Maybe have an opportunity to listen to God more often rather than talk to Him so much? That is what our Spiritual Companionship group is designed to do. We meet mid-month on a Monday from 1:00-2:00 pm. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 10.

If you are interested in joining this group, or if you want to participate at a different time, please speak with Gloria Toole after the service, or call her at 403-282-6489.

SPIRITUAL PROGRAMS



GRIEF SUPPORT: Finding New Ways to Be Known

Known and loved. Each of us yearns for that connection and celebrates when we experience it. How hard it is when our life partner passes and we lose the one who knew and loved us best!

Finding a new way of being known and engaging a wider community to rediscover caring and appreciation is a very difficult task. It takes time, openness to grieving and to healing, a willingness to find new paths, and a place of warm wisdom and hugs.

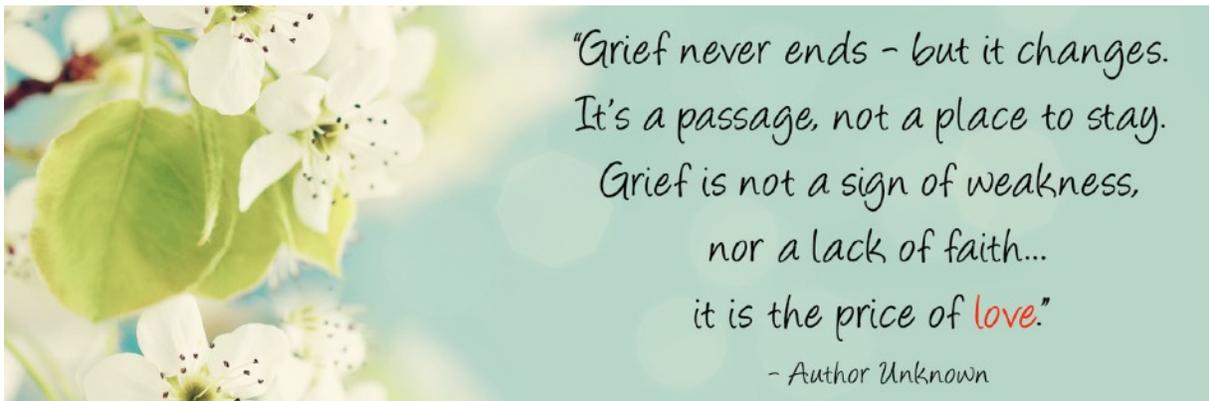
Christ Moravian is a good place to be when all that happens. People call, supply food, drop in, hug, listen, laugh and cry with each of us. But there's still a void; a sense that we need to "buck up and move on" – often way before we're ready. That's why our church also offers a grief support program for those who wish to come.

Doug Zeck and Gloria Toole co-facilitate this 6 session program. They have years of training and experience behind them: Doug through the Alberta Health Services grief support program and Gloria as a Spiritual Director. They offer a framework and a space to talk confidentially about grief and loss; share what's really happening, consider how to cope with new tasks and ways of being; talk about those first steps into a new reality.

The group itself, people who are living the grief, really make it work. Each one respects the ground rules. Membership is known only to the group. What is said in the group stays in the group AND is only re-raised during group time if at all. Each one is heard without interruption. No one has to share if they choose not to. Every topic is allowed. Anger is expressed along with the tears. Memories are heard and held as precious. And laughter definitely happens!

Each member's willingness to share their experience and their complex, often confusing emotions; to help each other get to the meetings; pick up the phone or share a pew ... helps all of them find new ways of being known. Still loved and cared for; still able to love and care.

Should you wish to talk privately or join a group, please call the church office or speak with Doug Zeck, 403-281-5612 or Gloria Toole, 403-282-6489.



[Click on Passage
to Read Scripture](#)

SCRIPTURE & WORSHIP

September 2

[Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9](#)
[Psalm 15](#)
[James 1:17-27](#)
[Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23](#)

September 9

[Isaiah 35:4-7a](#)
[Psalm 146](#)
[James 2:1-10, \(11-13\), 14-17](#)
[Mark 7:24-37](#)

September 16

[Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)
[Psalm 116:1-9](#)
[James 3:1-12](#)
[Mark 8:27-38](#)

September 23

[Jeremiah 11:18-20](#)
[Psalm 54](#)
[James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a](#)
[Mark 9:30-37](#)

September 30

[Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29](#)
[Psalm 19:7-14](#)
[James 5:13-20](#)
[Mark 9:38-50](#)

October 7

[Genesis 2:18-24](#)
[Psalm 8](#)
[Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12](#)
[Mark 10:2-16](#)

October 14

[Amos 5:6-7, 10-15](#)
[Psalm 90:12-17](#)
[Hebrews 4:12-16](#)
[Mark 10:17-31](#)

October 21

[Isaiah 53:4-12](#)
[Psalm 91:9-16](#)
[Hebrews 5:1-10](#)
[Mark 10:35-45](#)

October 28

[Jeremiah 31:7-9](#)
[Psalm 126](#)
[Hebrews 7:23-28](#)
[Mark 10:46-52](#)

WORSHIP THEMES AND HIGHLIGHTS

Sept 2

Sixth Sunday of the *Living Waters*
Waters of Healing: Scripture Focus: John 9:1-11
Holy Communion

Sept 9

KICK-OFF SUNDAY, Last Sunday of *Living Waters*
Living Waters Bring Us Together: Scripture Focus: John 4:7-15
Bring Your Water to the Well
Special Music: Marty Antonini and 7th Heaven

Sept 16

Lovefeast Sunday
Join in with this special Moravian tradition

Sept 23

Camp Celebration Sunday: Experience the joy and music of a day at camp. Wear your Camp T-Shirt, a Camp Skit will be shared

Sept 30

Friendship Sunday: Bring a friend to share worship
Special Music: Marty Antonini
Noisy Offering for Rajpur, Celebrate September Birthdays

Oct 7

Thanksgiving Sunday - Bring in items for the Food Bank
Worldwide Communion

Oct 14

Mission Sunday: A Celebration of the Mission to Labrador

Oct 21

Faith Sunday

Oct 28

Youth Sunday - Church youth take leadership of the service.

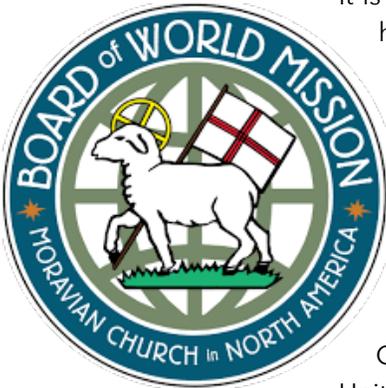
Fellowship Groups



Women's Groups: Women's Fellowship meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:15pm. Along with business items, these meetings involve a devotional time and a special activity. Members of this group provide mutual support and encouragement during difficult and special times. Women's Fellowship also raises funds to support the church through bake sales, candle making and catering of funerals and special events. This group has expanded to two other groups, a knitting and craft group that meets 10:30am to 2:30 pm on the last Wednesday of the month, as well as a Women's Tea at 1:30pm on the last Friday of the month. New participants are always welcome.

Men's Group: If you are interested in meeting with a group of like minded men, then come along to Men's Breakfast, generally the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 am. Discussion topics are many and varied and you may participate or just listen. Our breakfasts are bountiful and your small breakfast donation goes to a charity of our selection. We presently have both members and nonmembers of the church and would be glad to have you join us.

MORAVIAN MISSION MOMENT



It is said that a passion for mission is part of the Moravian DNA. Moravians have a long history of spreading the word of Christ around the world by reaching out with compassion to those who are most vulnerable. Since the Canadian District of the Moravian Church in North America was formed in 1895, many of its members have traveled to remote locations as missionaries for the Moravian Church.

The Board of World Mission (BWM) has long been the mission arm of the Moravian Church in North America. Its mission statement is to “disciple people by walking in mission with individuals, churches and global partners so that together we may provide opportunities for sharing the Gospel of Christ and for being instruments of God’s grace, peace and justice in the world.” As an agent of the Moravian World-Wide Unity, the Board of World Mission has been paired with several global partners to accompany them as they develop mission and ministry within their specific contexts. These partners include the independent Moravian provinces of Alaska, Costa Rica, Eastern West Indies, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua and Western Tanzania; as well as the mission provinces of Cuba and Labrador. Peru and Sierra Leone are new mission areas assigned to the BWM. The BWM also supports some projects that are supervised by other Unity provinces, such as the Star Mountain Rehabilitation Centre in Palestine, the Moravian Institute in India and missionary run schools in Nepal, Kenya and Mexico. Please pray for all of our mission partners, especially our partner provinces of Honduras and Nicaragua as they go through times of political and social unrest.

The Canadian Moravian Mission Society (CMMS) works with the BWM as the agent of the Board of Elders of the Canadian District (BECD) to foster a sense of Mission and Outreach. The CMMS Chair, currently Donna Gordon of Christ Church, serves as a member of the Board of World Mission. Each of the six congregations in the Canadian District have a representatives on the CMMS to help oversee the disbursement of District Funds that are designated for mission programs and projects. They review and act on requests submitted by the BWM as well as individuals and congregations within the Canadian District. Funding for the CMMS comes through congregational assessments which totaled \$8000 in 2017, \$1475 of that having come from Christ Church. Private donations and estate gifts are also accepted and appreciated. Some individuals and congregations also make separate donations directly to the BWM.

The CMMS was incorporated as a nonprofit society in 2003 primarily for the purpose of holding funds in Canada so that applications could be made for matching government grants. Historically, this grant has gone to support the Moravian Institute in Rajpur because matching funds are already in place through the Foster Child Project. At times this grant is used to fund other Moravian mission projects, and the CMMS is currently in negotiations with Moravian partners to use this grant to help build a multi-use facility in Haiti that will house a school and worship centre.

The CMMS encourages and supports District congregations to live out the gospel by participating in community service and outreach opportunities. Congregations in our District may request funds from the CMMS to support outreach projects that share God’s grace and serve local communities. Individuals and groups may also apply for funding should they wish to serve God’s people in Moravian locations around the globe. Recently, the CMMS has supported missions to Cuba, Labrador and Peru.

The CMMS, through the Board of World Mission, also contributes spiritual, financial and human resources during times of disaster such as floods, wildfires, hurricanes and earthquakes. Currently, the BWM is forming teams to go to the East West Indies to repair buildings destroyed in the 2017 hurricane season.

Speak with Donna Gordon or Pat Wolf if you would like to learn more about the CMMS or the BWM, or visit the BWM website, www.moravianmission.org.

MISSION & MINISTRY

Humanitarian Project in Sri Lanka – submitted by Indranie and Siri Pererak

This project began after the devastating tsunami in 2004 and continues to progress unabated as the needs of the less fortunate are forever continuing. Funds raised through this project have allowed us to support the following four initiatives:

- a) Caring for three cancer patients by providing funds for food supplements and medicine that are not provide by the hospital.
- b) Providing supplies, tuition and travel expenses for four pre-university and university students whose parents are financially unable to support them.
- c) Supporting two families who do not have enough income to purchase groceries.
- d) Contributing to Candle Aid Lanka*, an organization that helps victims of devastating floods and mudslides which occur annually in Sri Lanka during monsoon season. For more information, visit www.candleaid.org.

We sincerely thank the members of Christ Moravian Church for all of the donations that have religiously been made in the form of empty beverage containers. We wish to emphasize that this project would not be possible without the unwavering support of your congregation.

Thank you,

Indranie and Siri Pererak



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

A Wonderful Sunday School Staff Preparing to Go

You may have been missing us as we only sporadically covered Sunday School in July and August. You probably know about us because the children laugh and make noise that joyfully rises to the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Sometimes you see interesting crafts left in the fireside room. Sometimes you catch a glimpse of us as we lead the kids downstairs after Steve's intriguing - and sometimes a little mischievous -- children's messages.

We continue to have dedicated and creative teachers who will again lead Children's Church beginning September 16. Please say thanks when you see them. Each one brings something special: a particular talent for involving the children in decision making; creative, beautifully executed crafts; music; spontaneity; a younger, compassionate viewpoint; a willingness to fill in as needed; a mother's wisdom and energy; an artist's view; biblical knowledge; organizational skills; a sense of silly. Everyone of these teachers enjoys and appreciates these young ones as members of our wider community. Who are they?

Rhonda Amiot

Catherine Clake

Danielle Clake

Bryan Gates

Mark Gates

Emma Gorai

Jodi Gorai

Scott Paisley

Clara Pratt

Olivia Pratt

Gloria Toole

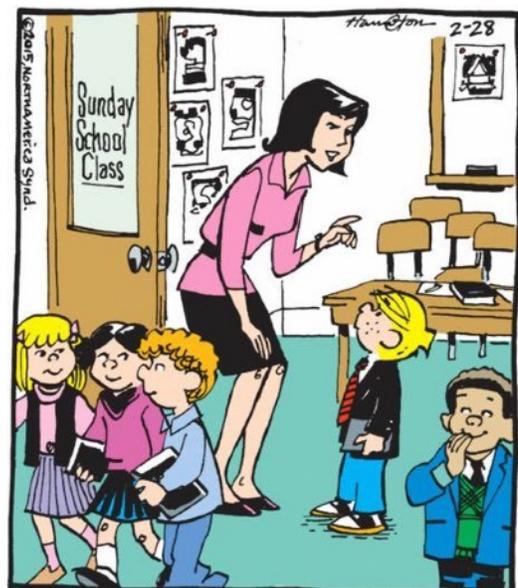
Pat Wolf

We will miss Michael Callander this year and welcome Danielle Clake as our newest member. Thank you to all of them... and to the children and parents who make it all worthwhile.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"The first day is allways the hardest Claude... which Sunday School class were you teaching?"



"BY THE WAY, DENNIS... ADAM AND EVE WORE FIG LEAVES, NOT FIG NEWTONS."