



CHRIST MORAVIAN CHURCH

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

Contact Us

Christ Moravian Church

600 Acadia Drive, SE
Calgary, Alberta T2J 0B8
(403) 271-2700

Email: moravian@nucleus.com
www.christmoravian.com

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Gohdes

Admin. Assistant: 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

Fellowship of Elders

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

Pastor's Thoughts for the New Year



2019 - The year of the 50th Anniversary of the ministry and life of Christ Moravian Church. Wow! I get excited seeing the plans beginning to develop for the 50th Anniversary celebration.

I recall turning 50 years old myself. The year was 2007 and it's when my wonderful 20/20 vision began to get a bit fuzzy. As you may have seen, I've had to begin wearing glasses to aid my vision to see with that 20/20 clarity.

I suspect a church such as ours has the same dilemma in a bit of a different way. As we begin the activities and ministry in Christ's name for the next 50 years, our vision and sight begins to adjust. There will be changes that need to be made. We may need to have our sight "tweaked" in order to see where God is leading us. As we do so, it seems that God is always attentive to clarifying our vision in order for us to see the needs we are to support, the people we are called to love, and the lives we are to bless.

At the January 6th worship service we shared the "watchword" which was selected for the congregation for this upcoming year.

1 Peter 2:9 *"You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of God who called you out of darkness into God's marvellous light."*

This text seems to highlight the past of our first 50 years, and simultaneously offers a call and invitation for what lies ahead into the next season of ministry for us all.

Blessings to all for 2019.

Pastor Steve Gohdes



NEWS & EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Sundays

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

January 2019

- 5 Men's Breakfast, 8:30am
- 6 Open Door Meeting, 11:45am
- 8 Anniversary Planning 10am
- 9 Southwood Chapel, 9:30am
- 10 Canasta, 1pm
- 10 Youth Group, 7pm
- 13 Newcomers Group, 11:45am
- 15 Grief Group, 10am
- 18 Mustard Seed Lunches, 1pm
- 21 Spiritual Companions, 1pm
- 23 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 24 Canasta, 1 pm
- 24 Youth Group, 7pm
- 25 Ladies's Tea, 1:15pm
- 30 Knitting/Crafts, 10:30-2:30pm
- 31 Elders Meeting, 7pm

February 2019

- 2 Men's Breakfast, 8:30am
- 3 Open Door Meeting, 11:45am,
- Emergency Procedures
- 6 Women's Fellowship, 1:15pm
- 7 Long Range Task Force, 7pm
- 10 Church Council, 11:45am
- 13 Southwood Chapel, 9:30am
- 14 Canasta, 1pm
- 15 - 17 Youth Retreat in Banff
- 22 Ladies's Tea, 1:15pm
- 23 Coldest Night of the Year
- 27 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 27 Knitting/Crafts, 10:30-2:30pm
- 28 Canasta, 1 pm

Church Council Meeting: February 10, 2019 at Noon

All congregational members are called to attend the upcoming winter church council meeting. This brief meeting has three main agenda items:

- 1) Acceptance of financial statements of 2018.
- 2) Acceptance of the proposed budget for 2019.
- 3) Discussion of upgrade to audio visual system. (See page 4)

Any other agenda items should be brought forward to Chair Alan Bartlett prior to the meeting.

Christ Moravian Church Planning Survey

The 50th Anniversary of Christ Moravian Church provides an important opportunity for all of us to share together in assessing who we are and where we see ourselves going. The Long Range Planning Committee has developed a questionnaire designed to assist in this task.

The survey not only asks several sets of questions about our congregation's current ministry and your own involvement, but also seeks your input on the vision for our future. Completing this survey ensures that your views have been heard and will give us a baseline from which to measure whether we are moving in directions that we think are important.

We ask that each member of your household over the age of 15 complete the survey. Two versions are available, a printed version and an online version. Both versions are the same. We encourage you to use the online version if you can. It is quick and easy to use, and will help us tabulate the results automatically. Paper copies are available at church or by email upon request. **The deadline to complete and return the questionnaire is January 27, 2019.**

Please note: The link to the online version that was emailed on January 7 does not work. Please use the new link sent on January 10 or click [here](#) to go to the survey. You may also copy and paste the link below into your web browser. We apologize for the inconvenience.

We hope you enjoy filling out the questionnaire and that in addition to assisting our church, you will find this process helpful in reflecting on your faith, the meaning of your church experience, and your hopes for the future of Christ Moravian Church.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Gordon, dlgordon@shaw.ca, 403-251-4024, or Bernard Amiot, bamiot@telus.net (403) 874-7416.

Link to the questionnaire: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SFDRV6>

NEWS & EVENTS



**ARE YOU KEEN TO GLEAN
A NEW UNDERSTANDING
OF THE BIBLE IN 2019?**

We will be resume our study of the Bible January 6th, 2019 from 9:00-10:00 AM. We are using the book “We Make the Road by Walking” by Brian McLaren which gives us a fresh overview of the Bible. The title suggests that Christian faith is still “in the making”. It continues to grow, evolve, learn, change, emerge, and mature ... in and through us. What we will be as Christians in the 21st century, for better or worse, will surely change what Christian faith will be in the 22nd century and beyond.

All are welcome to join in this exciting journey. Books are available through Amazon. Barb Ward also has a couple of extra copies.



**SAVE THE DATES:
Saturday, April 27
& Sunday, April 28**

The Christ Moravian Church **50th Anniversary Celebration Event** will be held the afternoon of Saturday, April 27, 2019. The program will feature music, entertainment and speakers followed by a catered dinner. The cost for this event will be \$20.

A **Special 50th Anniversary Worship Service** will take place on Sunday, April 28 at 10:30am and will be followed by a luncheon.

Keep your calendar free!

Please remember to submit your faith stories to Pat Wolf for publication in a 50th Anniversary Commemorative Book.



Moravian Daily Text & Watchword

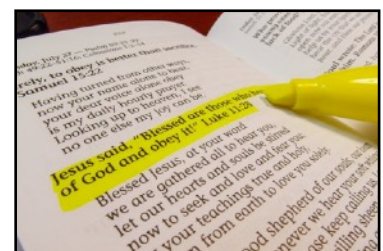
First published in 1731 in Herrnhut, Germany, The Daily Texts grew out of a spiritual renewal of the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) that dates back to Aug. 13, 1727. Today, more than 280 years after its first publication, the Daily Texts continues its promise of “a daily message from God that is new every morning.”

The Moravian Daily Texts offers an inspirational connection to the Holy Scriptures every day. Each entry in this beloved daily devotional includes “watchwords”—Old and New Testament verses to accompany readers throughout the day—combined with beautiful hymn texts and heartfelt prayers selected and written by Moravians across North America.

Copies of the Daily Text are available for purchase at the church, or you can sign up to have the daily message sent to your email each morning: www.moravian.org/subscribe-to-the-daily-texts/.

Be sure to pick up your **personal WATCHWORD for 2019** from the selection compiled by Pastor Steve and located on the front hall table at the church.

Select your watchword using the Moravian way of drawing lots, a form of cleromancy in which an outcome is determined by means that normally would be considered random, but are believed to reveal the will of God.



BOARD BRIEFS

From: David Bennett, Vice Chairperson, Christ Moravian Church Executive Board

Re: Christ Moravian Church Audio Visual System Upgrade

The Executive Board has been approached by church members about the state of our current Audio Visual (AV) system. Some members have trouble hearing the speakers during the service. Other members have trouble seeing the screen. I have noticed that visiting speakers have trouble using our current AV system for their presentation. The pastor is finding the current AV system more challenging to use as time goes on.

The Executive Board charged me with looking into 'upgrading the current AV system.' I was not sure what 'upgrading the AV system' meant so I had a look around at other churches. I looked at TV recording studio setups that had a huge WOW factor but also would require a space the size of our Fireside Room and a budget larger than our total annual budget. Sadly, I have been to more funerals than I would like this year, so I had the chance to check out the AV system of other churches. Bigger churches have more AV gear to broadcast clearly within their building, but all seem to have a sound control area at the back of the sanctuary. I am not sure that we can afford to dedicate a couple of our back pews to a sound board setup.

The AV upgrade committee invited three companies to assess our AV setup and make recommendations. AVVox focused on the audio part of our AV system and offered solutions that would improve the sound quality but did not make any suggestion to remedy the visual components of our AV system. The team from Best Buy seemed ill equipped to offer any meaningful solutions for our upgrade project. The team from TODD AV offered a solution that would bring the CMC AV system into the digital age. This technology has a more powerful projector with no bulb, so I got excited. It also allows visiting speakers to connect directly to the projector to do their presentation. In addition, this type of system would allow us to have a wall mounted panel to make minor sound adjustment without having to rush to the front.

I will be presenting more detail on my findings during the February 10, 2019 church council meeting. The Executive board would like the congregation to approve proceeding with the AV system upgrade. I don't mean approval to go out and buy a new system. I mean approval to proceed with our due diligence and get three quotes for a new AV system.

If you have any thoughts on the state of our current AV system or the kind of upgrades you would like to see in a new AV system, please come and chat with me. My phone and email are in the church directory, but I would love to chat with you after church in person.

Yours in Christ,

David



[Click on Passage to Read Scripture](#)

SCRIPTURE & WORSHIP THEMES

January 6

[Isaiah 60:1-6](#)
[Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14](#)
[Ephesians 3:1-12](#)
[Matthew 2:1-12](#)

January 13

[Isaiah 43:1-7](#)
[Psalm 29](#)
[Acts 8:14-17](#)
[Luke 3:15-17, 21-22](#)

January 20

[Isaiah 62:1-5](#)
[Psalm 36:5-10](#)
[1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#)
[John 2:1-11](#)

January 27

[Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10](#)
[Psalm 19](#)
[1 Corinthians 12:12-31a](#)
[Luke 4:14-21](#)

February 3

[Jeremiah 1:4-10](#)
[Psalm 71:1-6](#)
[1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)
[Luke 4:21-30](#)

February 10

[Isaiah 6:1-8, \(9-13\)](#)
[Psalm 138](#)
[1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#)
[Luke 5:1-11](#)

February 17

[Jeremiah 17:5-10](#)
[Psalm 1](#)
[1 Corinthians 15:12-20](#)
[Luke 6:17-26](#)

February 24

[Genesis 45:3-11, 15](#)
[Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40](#)
[1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50](#)
[Luke 6:27-38](#)



Worship Amidst the Light of Christ!

As the long, dark, cold months of January and February occur, Sunday worship becomes a source of light and joy for us as we come together in fellowship and faith. January worship begins in the season of "Epiphany", a time in which God's presence "comes to light" through Jesus. Here are some highlights for these Sunday's.

EPIPHANY'S THEME...Walking In Christ's Light!

- January 13** Scripture focus: The Baptism of Jesus. God is at times of birth, beginning and blessing. Special music: Bob Tedrick
- January 20** Special Guest Speaker: Ms. Carrie Behlke shares joy and music in worship at CMC.
- January 27** Scripture Focus: Jesus reads commissioning words in the Temple. God is found amidst actions of hope. Birthday Sunday & Noisy Offering.
- February 3** Scripture Focus: 1 Corinthians 13...Love is! Holy Communion is Celebrated. Special Music by Rachel Kyle *Followed by Open Door Meeting: Emergency Procedures*
- February 10** Scripture Focus: Jesus calls disciples. Special music: Pratt Family
- February 17** Scripture Focus: Luke 6:17 The Beatitudes
- February 24** Scripture Focus: Luke 6:27-38 Love you enemies. Birthday Sunday, Noisy Offering



MISSION AND MINISTRY

As supporters of Acadia Place and organizations like Inn From the Cold and Mustard Seed, Christ Church has been part of Calgary's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness. This article published December 20, 2018 by the Calgary Homeless Foundations, summarizes research findings from this 10 year initiative and sets directives for the future.

Sunsetting Calgary's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness: Learnings from a Decade of Progress

On January 29, 2008, the City of Calgary launched a bold initiative to end homelessness in our community. As a first of its kind in Canada, Calgary's 10 Year Plan To End Homelessness was founded on the aspirational goal of ending homelessness in our city so that all people facing homelessness in Calgary will have access to safe, decent and affordable housing as well as the resources and supports necessary to sustain that housing by the year 2018. While Calgary did not achieve its ambitious goal of ending homelessness, over the past decade our community has had many successes.

Together we have...

- Added more than 2,100 programming spaces throughout Calgary, ensuring that individuals are not only housed, but are housed with the right supports;
- Housed and supported more than 9,700 people experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness in our city;
- Created more than 550 units of permanent housing with supports;
- Stopped the growth of and reduced homelessness in our city. There are 32% fewer people, per capita, experiencing homelessness in our city today than in 2008;
- Have made better use of public dollars - every \$1 spent on Housing First is associated with \$1.5 - \$4 of savings to the public system;
- Established a Coordinated System-of-Care;
- Launched Canada's first comprehensive Homeless Management Information System.

We have learned that...

- *Housing First* does not equal housing only, many people require wrap around supports to help them be successful.
- Prevention must occur in the primary public systems and community-based supports.
- While the goal of a true *Absolute Zero* end to homelessness remains our collective aspirational goal, it makes more sense for us to focus on achieving what is now known as *Functional Zero* - whereby efforts are concentrated on reaching a point where there are enough services, housing, and emergency shelter beds for everyone who needs them so that anyone who experiences homelessness does so only briefly, is rehoused quickly and successfully, and is unlikely to return to homelessness again.

What's Next? Together to Zero: 6 Strategic Directives:

Based on the lessons and wisdom gleaned from over a decade of collaboration, priority areas beyond 2018 are to enable coordination at the strategic and service delivery levels to achieve Functional Zero within our city.

1. People First - Lived/living experience, frontline staff and commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.
2. A Home for Everyone - Housing First, and a healthy affordable and supportive housing continuum.
3. Data & Knowledge. Sharing of research and knowledge to drive meaningful outcomes.
4. Agile System Planning - Enhancements to the homeless-serving system of care, improving outcomes for clients and increased service coordination.
5. Eco-System Integration - Homelessness prevention, strategic integration with community systems of care.
6. Strategic Investment & Empowering Calgarians - Coordination, community engagement and public education.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

MONTHLY MISSION CHALLENGE



The Outreach and Mission Committee is challenging everyone to accomplish a Monthly Mission Challenge or a Random Act of Kindness. This where you can bring joy to someone or an organization in our community. Below you will find suggested ways that you can bring joy to someone. Or feel free to think of your own ideas on how you can help in your community.

Remember the main goal is to reach out to someone in your community. By taking a small step you can feel more connected to God's world and the people in it.

January 2019

- ♦ **Praise a Local Business:** *Go online or in person to thank a local business for a recent shopping experience or for their great product.*
- ♦ **Piggy Bank for a Cause:** Pick a cause, get a piggy bank, and start saving.
- ♦ **Greet a Neighbour:** Visit a new neighbour or one you don't know well. Feel free to bring them some goodies or tips about special places in the neighbourhood.

February 2019

- ♦ **Find Out Something New About a Friend or Coworker:** You might be surprised at what you learn.
- ♦ **Drink More Water:** When you are healthy and energetic it is much easier to be kind.
- ♦ **Donate Used Towels and Blankets:** Animal shelters and homeless shelters are often in need of old

**Compassionate Caring
Through Nonviolent
Communication**

An Introductory Workshop



**Coming at the end
of February to
Christ Moravian Church**

Compassionate or Nonviolent communication was developed by clinical psychologist Dr. Marshall Rosenberg. He believes that compassion is our natural state of being. His life work was devoted to exploring two questions:

1. What happens to disconnect us from our compassionate nature leading us to behave violently or exploitatively.
2. What empowers some to stay connected to our compassionate nature even under the worst circumstances.

While studying these questions Dr. Rosenberg was struck by the crucial role language can play. Even though we may not consider ourselves violent, if we communicate with moralistic judgements, evaluations, criticisms, demands, coercion or labels of right vs. wrong, these are ways of communication that result in disconnection.

Dr. Rosenberg developed a specific approach to communication called Nonviolent Communication (NVC) that helps us to connect in a way that allows our natural compassion to flourish. The concepts and tools of NVC are designed to help us think, listen and speak in ways that awaken compassion and generosity within ourselves and between each other.

Spirituality is at the base of Nonviolent communication and it could be considered a spiritual practice. It supports a moment by moment awareness of the purpose of life of compassionate connection, giving and service which is a manifestation of the divine within in us. It also helps us check that our motivations for helping ourselves, and each other are not from fear, obligation or guilt. You can learn more about it at www.cnvc.org.



The workshop will be led by Al Tinholt. Al has completed NVC international intensive training with Marshall Rosenberg, is a member of the CNVC Trainer/Candidate Community Program (TCCP) and among other qualifications is certified as Grief Recovery Specialist. He brings to the table a passion for compassionate communication, conflict transformation, grief recovery, compassionate spirituality, restorative circles and conscious leadership. Al is also a professionally registered award winning biological and environmental engineering consultant with extensive experience facilitating multi-stakeholder groups, chairing leadership and advocacy committees, technical forums and corporate board tables. He has mediated

conflicts at many levels of government, private corporations, non-government organizations, at the workplace, in community and between individuals. Check out his page <https://www.facebook.com/altinholtpage/>

**Those wishing to attend this workshop are asked to register by contacting the
Christ Moravian Church Office: (403)271-2700 or moravian@nucleus.com.**

Please speak with Barb Ward if you have any questions.