

Christ Moravian Church

Congregational Newsletter for the weekend of October 10th, 2021



Christ Church Watchword for the Year 2021

Psalm 42:1

"As the deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God."

Moravian Daily Text Watchword for the Week:

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,

Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. Hebrews 4:14

Worship Service Focus: Lives Filled with Thanksgiving !

Greetings Friends in Christ:

As Thanksgiving weekend arrives, you will recognize that the Sunday worship service and the Worship video this weekend will have an emphasis on this theme. The opening worship song will lead us in that very familiar hymn...

*"Come, you thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide, for our needs to be supplied;
Come with all His people come, raise the song of harvest home."*

Once again for a second year of COVID-19, this will be a Thanksgiving holiday facing the ongoing challenges of health issues, small gatherings, and careful actions. Yet, as we all pause to reflect on our blessings, our gifts, our lives, I'm convinced we will recognize that we are so thankful and grateful for the "plenty" we come to experience. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

As we enter the next stages of CMC ministry, I thank so many folks for their "behind the scenes" support and ministry that is occurring in these strange days. As I make some various phone calls and visits, it's so heartwarming to hear of the many ways in which others are reaching out with support, care, and friendship. CMC continues to be a living, breathing, serving "Body of Christ".

Well done, good and faithful stewards!

This email will again include all of our typical info, links and materials.

Pastor Steve Gohdes

Upcoming Events

**Sunday
October 10th
"Bible Buddies"**
meet at 8:30 am
via Zoom
Zoom details for
this Bible Study
Class are on the
Events page
of your e-mail

**Friday
October 15th
Elders Meeting** at
2:00 pm via Zoom

**Saturday
October 16th
CMC Executive
Board Orientation
Meeting**
9:30-11:30 am
at the church.

For more information, visit our website @
www.christmoravian.com



In-Person Worship on October 10th

Worshippers in-person are welcomed ~ masked & physically distanced as per current requirements.

Worship Assistance Needed!

As we carefully gather for "In Person" worship, assistance is now needed.

Greeter/Host/Usher - Holly Heffernan is coordinating the welcome hosts who will monitor the health issues for worship. Please contact her to volunteer.

Audio/Visual/Tech Support- CMC invites tech minded folks to assist with the A/V support. Orientation and Training will be offered. Speak with Pastor Steve to join this team.

Update on e-Transfer Donations from Ken Schultz, Envelope Steward

About 60% of Interac donations we receive do not have the donor's envelope number in the comments. If there is not an envelope number provided, I have to check my records to obtain an envelope number to ensure the correct donor is credited with the donation. If you do not know, or have forgotten your envelope number, you can email me keentz@shaw.ca and I will reply back to you with your envelope number.

Update from Fall Annual General Meeting on September 19

The 2021 CMC Annual General Meeting was held on September 19 on the CMC zoom site. We thank everyone that was able to join in this time of administrative support of the church.

General updates were offered on several important topics in the life of CMC including:

Executive Board activities, The continuation of video worship services, Realm Church Management Software, Re-Opening procedures for worship and group, Hybrid worship and meeting progress, Digital Campus Ministry activity, Financial update

The meeting included thanks and appreciation extended to the many volunteers who've been at work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Outgoing Executive Board members were given thanks and appreciation including: David Bennett, Jody Gorai, Pat Holm, and Catherine Wade. Thanks were again expressed to Executive Board Chair, Dr. Alan Bartlett who had stepped away from that role in springtime.

There was an election of Executive Board Members for the term ending in May 2022, to include: Bernard Amiot, Martin Driver, Donna Gordon, Don Kawchuk, and Cathie Queen.

As well, there was the election of Executive Board Members for the term ending in May 2023 including: Holly Heffernan, Garnet Holm, Donna Kreese, Mark Lieskovsky, and Sue Wigle.

Please lend your support and prayerful concern for the ongoing leadership of the church's life.

Good Shepherd Church Craft Fair

Join us for our annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, November 13th, 2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ 6311 NORFOLK DRIVE NW
(corner of 64th Avenue & Norfolk Drive NW)

A festive day of holiday treats; Impressive works of many local artisans and crafters. Something for everyone on your gift list. Invite friends & neighbours to come & enjoy fun, food & fellowship!

Weekly Reminders...

- Please know that you may call the church office for any needs that may arise. Feel free to phone (403-271-2700) to speak with us or leave a message. Another option is that you may contact the church office by e-mail at moravian@nucleus.com [this is monitored daily] with any questions or communication.
- **If you require assistance in getting to a COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please call the office.**
- Indranie Perera continues to receive recycling for support of Sri Lanka. She wishes to express sincere thanks to all who contribute to this worthwhile cause.

In All Things Love...

Children's Worship Bulletin

Coloring Page

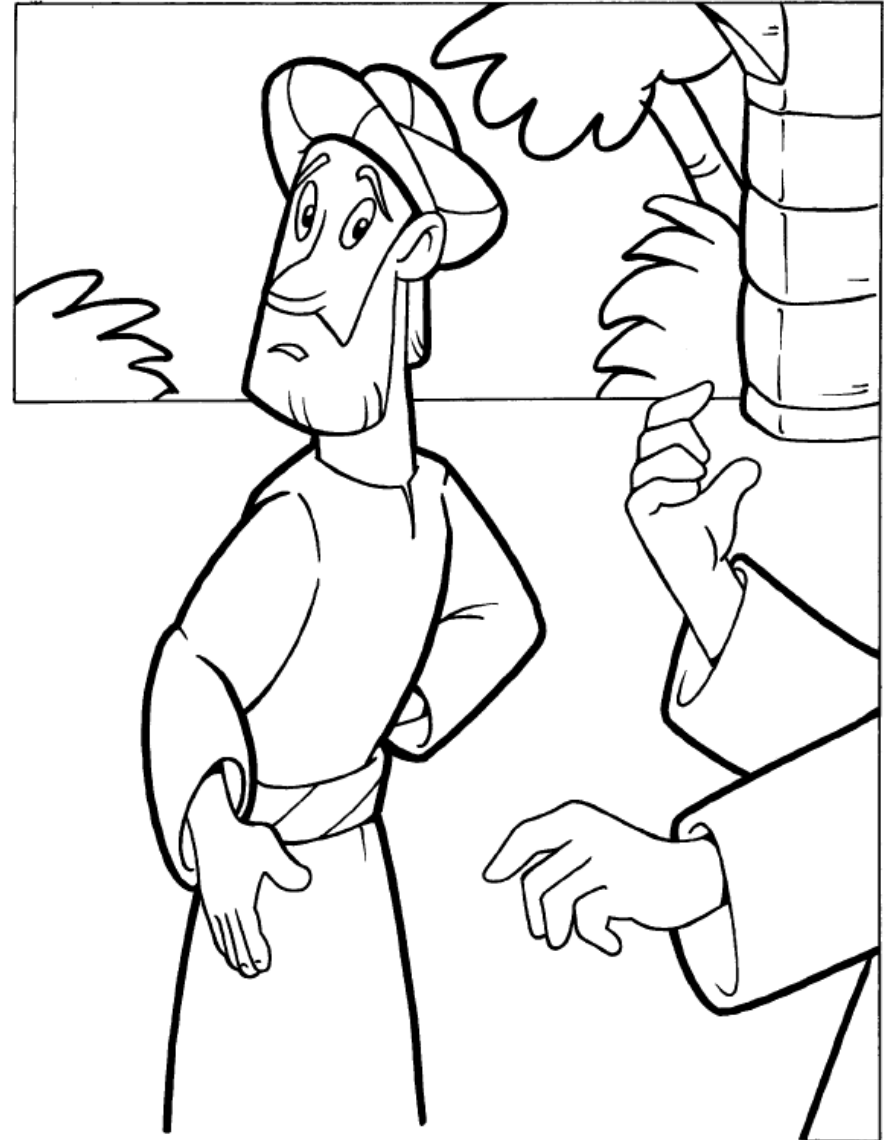
God of the Impossible

Mark 10:17-31

Word Search Puzzle

H T E S T I M O N Y E O N N C
R U W Y K W V D L A M T I T O
Q N R G B E V Y O U E J K F M
G O H K L A N U V L T R A Y M
H O N O R L E R E W E S D L A
C H Z E I T E K D N R F U P N
F A L S E H D X Q R N E L L D
K M Z S T R L R L L A T T A M
M I K A M E E N E T L E E C E
U R F K P H C M I T F A R K N
R P N P T T A R G A X C Y L T
D O E O E C E Z I L G H A L S
E O M F N H B E V O T E B L L
R R I P N G W M E S T R G Y I
B L X I K Z L B A S Z X M X H

adultery	false	inherit	mother	steal
carnel	father	lack	murder	teacher
commandments	give	life	needle	testimony
eternal	honor	loved	poor	wealth



The Rich Young Ruler

Christ Moravian Church
600 Acadia Drive SE
Calgary, AB T2J 0B8

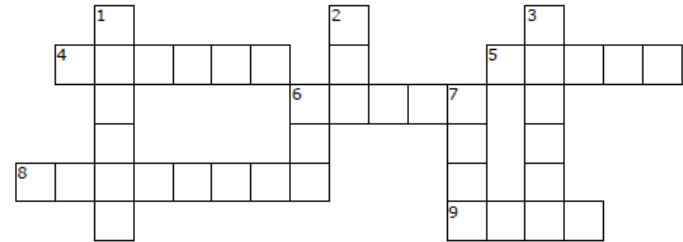
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Matching Quiz

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

- ___ 1. Possessing great material wealth
A. needle B. easier C. rich D. treasure
- ___ 2. An adult male human
A. heaven B. eye C. easier D. man
- ___ 3. Less difficult; something accomplished with little effort
A. easier B. heaven C. needle D. eye
- ___ 4. A long-necked animal with humps
A. camel B. treasure C. man D. enter
- ___ 5. An opening in a needle
A. hard B. camel C. eye D. treasure
- ___ 6. A small, slender implement used for sewing
A. easier B. needle C. treasure D. man
- ___ 7. Difficult; requiring considerable skill or effort
A. camel B. man C. eye D. hard
- ___ 8. To go into
A. treasure B. enter C. hard D. camel
- ___ 9. The home of God and the angels
A. heaven B. easier C. needle D. rich
- ___ 10. Something considered to be especially precious or valuable
A. easier B. treasure C. man D. needle

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

4. A small, slender implement used for sewing
5. A long-necked animal with humps
6. To go into
8. Something considered to be especially precious or valuable
9. Difficult; requiring considerable skill or effort

DOWN

1. The home of God and the angels
2. An adult male human
3. Less difficult; something accomplished with little effort
6. An opening in a needle
7. Possessing great material wealth

rich	easier	eye	hard	heaven
man	camel	needle	enter	treasure



MISSION: POSSIBLE

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Focus on Mark 10:17–31

WHAT is important to know?

— From “*Exegetical Perspective*,” C. Clifton Black

Answers Jesus: Wealth is a greater obstacle into the kingdom than a camel’s bulk through a needle’s eye (10:25; see also 4:18–19). The comment’s sheer absurdity is in alignment with Jesus’ parabolic speech, as suggested by the Twelve’s flabbergasted query: “Then who can be saved?” (v. 26). Repeating the action directed toward his first questioner, Jesus’ response drives home this passage’s main point: What is humanly impossible remains divinely achievable (v. 27). This way of putting things returns the reader to the form in which the man originally framed his question: “What must *I* do?” Ultimately, salvation cannot lie in mortal hands. It resides only with God, without whose support the human will cannot achieve its deepest desires.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “*Theological Perspective*,” James J. Thompson

As we accumulate riches, we are tempted to trust in our possessions and our powers of acquiring them, rather than in God, for our ultimate security and comfort. Even honestly acquired and generously shared wealth can thus lead to pride. This is why it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God. It is hard to let go of the immediate basis of our security and comfort—and the more we have, the harder it gets.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “*Pastoral Perspective*,” David B. Howell

When the disciples exclaimed, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus responded with hope: “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible” (v. 27). Those thick-skulled disciples had finally understood something: just how hard it is to change and to live out kingdom ethics. For them and for us, Jesus holds out the hope that, with God, change and first steps are not only possible but are already happening (“Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age . . . and in the age to come eternal life” [vv. 29–30]).

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

— From “*Homiletical Perspective*,”

Charles L. Campbell

Jesus’ approach to the rich man is helpful. Jesus loves the rich man; he does not view the man as intentionally evil. Indeed, the man appears to be faithful in many ways, having kept the commandments from his youth. Rather than condemning the “sin” of the rich man, Jesus confronts the man with his *weakness*, his captivity to possessions that prevents him from living into the full life of the kingdom. Jesus here names the “power” that holds the man captive and invites the man to step into freedom. As Jacques Ellul said, “To give away money is to win a victory over the spiritual power that oppresses us.”

A Wealthy, Consumer Culture



In our consumer culture, we are endlessly presented with any number of possessions and ways to use our finances, to the point where we can be controlled by them. Mark the boxes next to the activities that you engage in.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use a landline phone | <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy a stay-cation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use a smartphone | <input type="checkbox"/> Have neighbors to your home for a meal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use an iPad or other tablet device | <input type="checkbox"/> Eat in a restaurant more than two times weekly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use a desktop computer | <input type="checkbox"/> Help a neighbor with yard or house work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send handwritten letters | <input type="checkbox"/> Read to a child at home or at school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade or repair your computer within past 6 months | <input type="checkbox"/> Borrow books from the library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Own three or more cars/vehicles | <input type="checkbox"/> Donate books to a library or community center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Take a walk where you live | <input type="checkbox"/> Pay for a fitness club or country club membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Updated your wardrobe within past 6 months | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer in your community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wear clothing from last season | <input type="checkbox"/> Own a home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have more than one clothes closet | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent a home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for vacation | <input type="checkbox"/> Live with extended family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for work | <input type="checkbox"/> Own rental property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel to visit family | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Take a cruise | |

Look over the boxes you checked and make a self-assessment: How much are you controlled by possessions or wealth? In the space below, create a list of steps for releasing possessions, seeking “treasure in heaven,” and following Jesus (paraphrase Mark 10:21).

Select one step from your list that allows you to commit to live in a way that wealth and possessions do not control you. You have the option of naming this step during Closing.

***“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me...” Matthew 25:35***

Help! I’m New Here

Fund Drive to Support Refugee Families

Imagine entering Canada as a refugee. You have left the home and people you loved because your life is in danger. Your former country is in turmoil. You have come to Canada with some hope, but ... How do you get help? How do you speak the language fluently enough to even ask? How do you buy what you need and pay for the rent on the tiniest of budgets? Where do you send your children to school? Will they find friends? How can you get a job? Does this country even let a refugee get a job? Will you remain safe?

In June of 2020, CMC became involved with two refugee families when a number of our members met and got to know the mothers at the Acadia Food Pantry. These moms came for food and immediately rolled up their sleeves and began to help at the pantry as volunteers.

Both mothers are highly educated and had excellent jobs dealing with high level government finances in Angola, a country that is known for its corruption. They received death threats. They and their children were being followed because they refused to sign fraudulent claims for millions of dollars by people in “higher places.” In fear, they fled to Canada in January 2020 to seek safety and a new life for their children. One came by herself with her four children, ages 4 to 16. Her husband left his job and went into hiding. The other arrived with her husband and 10 and 16 year old sons.

In October 2020, CMC learned that these two families were in desperate need of legal help to navigate the bureaucracy of Canada’s immigration system and gain refugee status. Seeking more expertise, CMC reached out to the Refugee Support Group at McDougall United. They generously agreed to include these two families in their refugee program and added their own resources – knowledge and finances – to ours.

The Refugee Support Group at McDougall has been in place since 2016 when they responded to the call to help refugees fleeing the civil war in Syria. Since that time, a wide variety of settlement supports have been provided to seven families, the level of which has varied depending on family circumstances and financial resources of the program. This Refugee Support Group has:

- Aided in the preparation of documents such as immigration and work permit applications
- Assisted with legal fees related to immigration applications
- Offered advice and activities to promote integration into Canadian society
- Acted as an advocate with medical professionals, schools, social services, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, Labor Relations Board, etc.
- Assisted with resume writing and job search
- Sourced work training courses and other educational opportunities, including obtaining a driver’s license

- Helped obtain Canadian recognition of foreign education degrees
- Tutored English as a Second Language and connected with other English learner agencies
- Sourced essentials such as housing, household items, food and clothing
- Sourced enrichment items such as bicycles, swim lessons and computers
- Facilitated connections with a variety of settlement services and supports for newcomers
- Provided information on supports for low income earners such food banks, bus passes and recreation discounts

CMC has joined with McDougall as full partners in the ongoing work of supporting the two Angolan families. This has become an important component of CMC Mission and Outreach over this past year. Since October 2020, a number of CMC members have been involved in helping the two Angolan families in many of the ways listed above. Your help is needed in order for us to continue this work.

At some point in the future, we plan to work with McDougall to support other refugee families as well. The current situation in Afghanistan and Haiti reminds us of the difficult circumstances many of God's children face around the world. We are truly blessed to live in a country that has the ability and will to accept those who are less fortunate.

Please contact Gloria Toole or Donna Gordon for more information or volunteer opportunities.

CMC has committed to raising \$3000 to continue this work.

Can you help by contributing to the Refugee Fund?

You can donate at the church or through e-Transfer at donatecmc@nucleus.com.

Please label your contribution as "Refugee Fund".



Angolan children enjoying some sun and fun at Lake Bonavista