

Christ Moravian Church

Congregational Newsletter for the weekend of October 3, 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:

I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Hebrews 2:12



Dear Friends in Christ:

I flipped the calendar to the month of October and the picture displayed one of those wonderful images of what "Thanksgiving" expresses. The scene included a vast field ready for harvest. In the backdrop were trees with their leaves in a multitude of autumn colours, and there, nearer the camera, was a plot of land set aside for a garden with pumpkins, gourds, stalks of corn and more. This season leads us to express our thanks. On Thanksgiving weekend we will set our thoughts and prayers to words of gratitude and thanksgiving for the rich blessings we all receive from the hand of God.

With this month highlighting thanksgiving, I find it so important to have the CMC focus be one of mission, service, and generous sharing. The CMC Mission Committee begins a Mission Fundraiser Project to support recent refugees and new immigrants to Canada and Calgary. I encourage us all to offer prayerful and financial support to this special project. How often we become aware of the love of Christ by loving a new neighbor into our community! As well, let's be encouraged to support the local Acadia Food Pantry and the Calgary Food Bank in these next weeks to help our dear neighbours who are struggling with food insecurity. Finally, reach out with a phone call and a message of support to those you may know who are still faced with "front line" issues and responsibilities. Those supportive words of concern and kindness are needed now more than ever during these challenging times.

We are the thankful ones, so Jesus invites our gratitude to take action in support of a neighbor, a stranger, a loved one who is in need.

Fall blessings to all,
Pastor Gohdes

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

Upcoming Events

**Saturday
October 2nd**

Men's Group
meets at 8:30 am
via Zoom
Pastor Steve will
send the Zoom
link out

**Sunday
October 3rd**

"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.



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 groups
- 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 Kreesse, Mark Lieskovsky, and Sue Wigle.

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

Update from Ken Schultz, Envelope Steward

Our Envelope Budget to September 30th is \$141,375 and we have received \$128,264 as of September 30th.

In-Person Worship on October 3rd

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

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. Café Noel will serve sandwiches, delectable baked goods & beverages (coffee/tea/hot cider). Live music during lunch time. 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

Let the Children Come

Mark 10:13-16

Word Search Puzzle

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

PEOPLE	JESUS	INDIGNANT	GOD	ENTER
BRINGING	TOUCH	COME	BELONGS	ARMS
LITTLE	DISCIPLES	HINDER	TRUTH	HANDS
CHILDREN	REBUKED	KINGDOM	ANYONE	BLESSED

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



He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Mark 10:14

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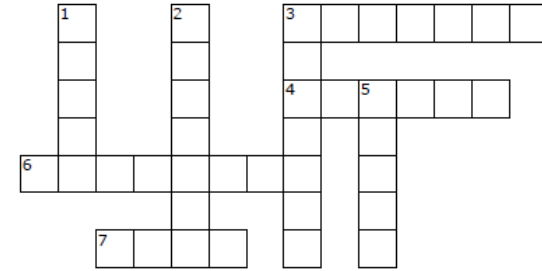
Matching Quiz

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

- ___ 1. Small in size
A. little B. belongs C. blessed D. truth
- ___ 2. Sons and daughters, young people
A. little B. touch C. children D. arms
- ___ 3. To come in contact with or to feel with your fingers
A. kingdom B. blessed C. arms D. touch
- ___ 4. A statement accepted as fact
A. children B. truth C. belongs D. kingdom
- ___ 5. A country or territory ruled by a king or queen
A. arms B. little C. kingdom D. touch
- ___ 6. To be a member of a group, such as a club or organization
A. belongs B. touch C. blessed D. kingdom
- ___ 7. The parts of the body which connect the hands to the shoulders
A. truth B. children C. touch D. arms
- ___ 8. Bringing happiness, pleasure, or contentment to someone
A. arms B. blessed C. little D. kingdom



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

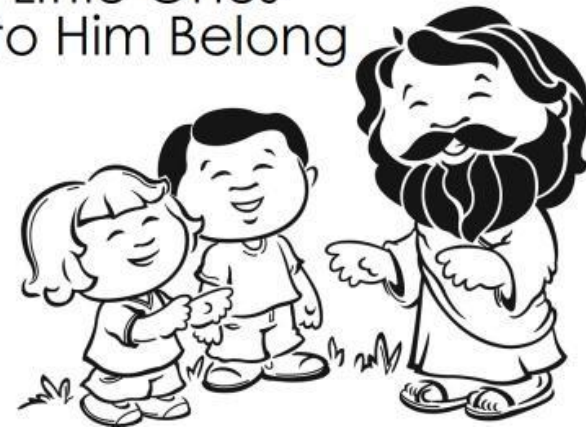
3. Bringing happiness, pleasure, or contentment to someone
4. Small in size
6. Sons and daughters, young people
7. The parts of the body which connect the hands to the shoulders

DOWN

1. A statement accepted as fact
2. A country or territory ruled by a king or queen
3. To be a member of a group, such as a club or organization
5. To come in contact with or to feel with your fingers

LITTLE	TOUCH	KINGDOM	BLESSED
CHILDREN	TRUTH	BELONGS	ARMS

Little Ones
to Him Belong



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***“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

Focus on Mark 10:2-16

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” C. Clifton Black

Another text-critical question arises in verse 7: whether Mark continues the quotation with the words “and cleave to his wife” (KJV; “and be joined to his wife,” NRSV). That this is Jesus’ intent is beyond question: “So they are no longer two, but one flesh” (v. 8b). The point is clear: while dissolution of marriage is permissible, owing to human incompetence in sustaining their vows, God’s intent at creation is wholeness, including oneness of flesh. Normatively speaking, *human beings* should not rupture what *God* unites (v. 9).

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” James J. Thompson

As presented in Mark, the Pharisees ask Jesus about divorce, not because they truly want to know the answer, but because they want to force him to take a stand on a controversial issue, and therefore offend someone. At one level, his answer may be even more offensive than they anticipated: Jesus claims the authority to supersede even the law of Moses. His demand for purity of heart is more rigorous than Mosaic law; more rigorous, in fact, than seems humanly possible. But, as he notes in the following passage, what is humanly impossible is possible for God (Mark 10:27). How then are we to receive and enter the kingdom of God? Not as those who try to justify ourselves, but as those who accept God’s grace, like children who with purity of heart accept the grace of their parents.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,” David B. Howell

In the larger lectionary passage (10:2-16), the disciples just do not get it: “Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter” (v. 10). The tension continues between Jesus and the disciples. He teaches them about the unfolding of the kingdom, and so often they (and we) just do not get it. Maybe that is why Jesus says in verse 14: “Let the little children come to me . . .” Perhaps Jesus was saying, “In the kingdom it is not about what is permissible but what is ethical Maybe if you receive the kingdom like a child, you will get it.”

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

— From “Homiletical Perspective,”

Charles L. Campbell

In the conclusion to Jesus’ comments about the children, he affirms, “Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it” (v. 15). Jesus here reminds the disciples that one enters the kingdom only by receiving it in complete dependence on God. One does not enter the kingdom through the fulfillment of any abstract legal principles, including those related to divorce and remarriage. The affirmation in the second pericope thus forestalls any attempt to set up Jesus’ earlier teaching as a timeless law, obedience to which is requisite for entering into God’s reign.

Divorce and Remarriage

By indicating that the proper attitude of those who are to receive and enter into the kingdom is reliance on and gratitude for God's grace, Jesus escapes the Pharisees' trap and provides a positive answer to the question of marriage, children, and divorce that is both uncompromisingly rigorous and an appeal to God's mercy.

—From James J. Thompson, *Feasting on the Word, Year B, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009), 140.

Divorce remains a live issue, but most Protestant churches have concluded that respect for marriage and the institution of marriage means that some particular marriages should end. Divorce is tragic, but not the worst evil. Today, however, we might imagine someone (or a group of latter-day Pharisees) asking Jesus about sexual intercourse outside of marriage, or about marriage between members of the same sex. Is it permissible? If we learn anything from this text, it is that we must be cautious about attempting to justify ourselves. Jesus claims the authority to supersede even the law of Moses, but we are not Jesus. How might he reframe the question, turn it to its roots, and demand full purity of heart?

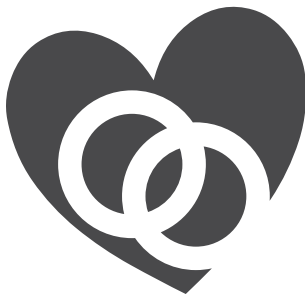
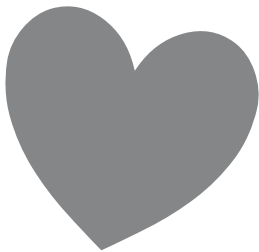
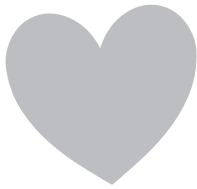
—Ibid., 144.

The great temptation of this text is to turn Jesus' teaching into a new "law" about divorce and remarriage. But Jesus' words are not meant to be a rigid, legal principle. Such a move, in fact, runs directly counter to Jesus' underlying theological emphasis. Jesus actually seeks to move beyond a legalistic approach to questions of divorce (the approach of his adversaries) toward a theological affirmation about God's purposes for marriage in the context of God's inbreaking reign. In making this move, Jesus actually uses Scripture against Scripture, rejecting the legal text cited by the Pharisees (Deut. 24:1-4) in favor of the theological affirmations present in the earlier creation stories in Genesis (Gen. 1:27; 2:24). Jesus definitely speaks some strong words about remarriage following divorce. (Notice that divorce itself is *not* the issue, but rather remarriage.) But the context is Jesus' respect for the deep bond of marriage — and possibly his sensitivity to the great pain caused by divorce — not his attempt to establish a new law.

—From Charles L. Campbell, *Feasting on the Word, Year B, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009), 143.

Jesus was declaring the beginning of a new era in which relationships could work if each party approached the other with mutual respect and concern. It was now possible to go beyond what was just permissible to what was kingdom enhanced.

—From David B. Howell, *Feasting on the Word, Year B, Volume 4* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009), 144.



A WORLD-WIDE COMMUNITY ~ RE-SHAPED IN THE POTTERS HANDS

Christ Moravian Church

600 Acadia Dr. S.E. Cgy, AB. T2J 0B8

Mon ~ Fri: 9 am ~ 1 pm

Phone: 271-2700 Fax: 271-2810

E-mail: moravian@nucleus.com

Web: www.christmoravian.com

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Gohdes

Pastoral Partner: Rev. Matt Gillard

October 3rd, 2021

10:30 am

With the arrival of fall, many find this to be a time of re-shaping and formation in life. Today, would normally be the Sunday to celebrate World-Wide Holy Communion. However, because of the concern of the Covid Virus we will postpone the Eucharist this year. Yet, we continue to see God uniting people of faith from across the world as the “Potter shapes a world of love”. Relationships are one of the ways God is able to re-mold and re-form us in **THE POTTERS HANDS.**

WELCOME.

Prelude into Worship

Use these moments in prayer and quiet thought!

Words of Welcome

Lighting the Candles of Peace

Introit Video: “Lord You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

Jorge Aviles (solo)

Call to Worship:

Hundreds of millions of Christians across the globe come to places of worship, like us, in the spirit of God’s love.

We are the children, youth, adults, who gather in love here on earth, as we will gather some day in heaven.

We come to this time to be fed. In the Word, in the quiet prayers, in the songs and in the stillness of our hearts, God comes to feed us and make us whole.

God's amazing grace and love will be found in the fullness of our experience as living members of the body of Christ.

We come and gather around the table of the Lord. We gather and are welcomed in being our true selves.

We bring our brokenness and our concerns. We bring our hunger and our want. We bring our doubts and our questions, and we open our hearts to the love of God to meet us where we are and to transform us into the people of God we become. Amen.

Song: # 535 MBW " Joining Our Voices " vss 1, 2, 3

Joining our voices, all in God's praises,
the church rejoices in these new days;
thanks for this hour, with all its challenge,
thanks for God's power with us always.

From ev'ry nation, you call your people;
in our salvation you make us one;
sister and brother, joined in the Spirit;
loving each other in the one Son.

Make us more giving, make us more open,
fill us for living each day with love;
pour out your Spirit, strengthen our witness,
till earth inherit heaven above.

A Prayer of Gathering in World-Wide Relationships

Children's Moment

Piggy, Message, The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Word:

Psalm 96: 1-2, 11-13

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.
Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.
Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Mark 10: 13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Anthem: “ Make Me a Channel of Your Peace ”
Jorge Aviles & Heidi Gohdes

Meditation:
“The Potter Shapes the Clay in Love & Kinship”

Seeing the Community in Action:
Video of Mission Trip to Labrador

Prayer of God's People

Closing Song: # 18 SGP

“ We Are Called to Follow Jesus ”

When pain of the world surrounds us with darkness and despair,
when searching just confounds us with false hopes ev'rywhere,
when lives are starved for meaning and destiny is bare,
we are called to follow Jesus and let God's healing flow thro'
us.

We see with fear and trembling our aching world in need,
confessing to each other our wastefulness and greed.
May we with steadfast caring the hungry children feed.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's justice flow thro'
us.

The church is a holy vessel the living waters fill
to nourish all its people, God's purpose to fulfill.
May we with humble courage be open to God's will.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's spirit flow thro' us.

We praise you for our journey and your abundant grace,
your saving word that guided a struggling human race.
O God, with all creation, your future we embrace.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's changes flow thro'
us.

Benediction

Silent Prayer

Departing in Safety

Update from Ken Schultz, Envelope Steward

Our Envelope Budget to September 30th is \$141,375 and we have received \$128,264 as of September 30th.

Announcements:

Saturday, Oct. 2nd: Men’s Group meets at 8:30 am via Zoom
Pastor Steve will send the Zoom link out

Sunday Oct. 3rd: Bible Study at 8:30 am via Zoom

If you’re interested in joining the “CMC Bible Buddies”, a group Bible Study led by Barb & Michael Ward, please contact Barb at bjward@shaw.ca for further information.

Zoom details for this Bible Study Class are on the Events page of your October 1st e-mail from the church.

Friday, Oct. 15th Elders meeting at 2:00 pm via Zoom

Pastor Steve will send the Zoom link out

**Saturday, Oct. 16th: Executive Board Orientation meeting
from 9:30 am – 11:30 am.**

The meeting will be held in person at the church.

October 17th & October 24th:

Rev. Matt Gillard will lead worship on these days.

Christ Moravian Church Facebook Page ~

Check out the new CMC Facebook page and put the word out to others!

Join us for our annual



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 2021

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

**Café Noel will serve sandwiches, delectable baked goods
& beverages (coffee/tea/hot cider)**

Live music during lunch time



**Invite friends & neighbours to come & enjoy fun,
food & fellowship!**