



CHRIST MORAVIAN CHURCH

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

Contact Us

Christ Moravian Church

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Vice Chair: Bernard Amiot

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



Pastor's Ponderings

I'm sure we unanimously acknowledge that the summer of 2019 flew by so very fast. It seems to me that one day we had concluded the 50th Anniversary celebrations in April, then we teamed together on another fantastic CMC Garage Sale, then a huge Calgary Stampede worship service and BBQ were experienced, and before we knew it the CMC Picnic at the Tedrick's beautiful acreage brought us to the transition into the autumn of this year. Wow.

Many of the CMC congregation recognized that my personal life was filled with busy, exciting and joyful moments as well. A family wedding, a newly birthed grandson, and several other personally refreshing experiences filled these summertime days.

I see God's presence lovingly experienced in a busy summer as we have had. Quite possibly this adds to the understanding of our summer worship theme "A Journey of Faith". Around each bend of this journey, arriving each day along our life's pathway God's loving grace is renewed and discovered as our eyes of faith are opened.

As I've participated in each of these Sunday's during this summer worship series, my faith journey has been enriched... through a special prayer which gets voiced from the pew; amidst a meaningful hymn or special music offering; during the quiet solitude of lighting the candles of peace; via the smiles of the children as they shake the noisy offering cans to affirm our love for a child far away in Rajpur, India; or one of those many other "holy" moments on this journey.

As the autumn arrives, and a new church season ensues beyond "Kick-Off" Sunday, may our journey of faith with God continue to offer blessings and beauty as we travel with a friend named Jesus Christ.

Autumn peace to all,

Pastor Steve Gohdes



[Click on Passage
to Read Scripture](#)

SCRIPTURE & WORSHIP THEME

September 1

[Proverbs 25:6-7](#)
[Psalm 112](#)
[Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16](#)
[Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

September 8

[Deuteronomy 30:15-20](#)
[Psalm 1](#)
[Philemon 1:1-21](#)
[Luke 14:25-33](#)

September 15

[Exodus 32:7-14](#)
[Psalm 51:1-10](#)
[1 Timothy 1:12-17](#)
[Luke 15:1-10](#)

September 22

[Amos 8:4-7](#)
[Psalm 113](#)
[1 Timothy 2:1-7](#)
[Luke 16:1-13](#)

September 29

[Amos 6:1a, 4-7](#)
[Psalm 146](#)
[1 Timothy 6:6-19](#)
[Luke 16:19-31](#)

October 6

[Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4](#)
[Psalm 37:1-9](#)
[2 Timothy 1:1-14](#)
[Luke 17:5-10](#)

October 13

[2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c](#)
[Psalm 111](#)
[2 Timothy 2:8-15](#)
[Luke 17:11-19](#)

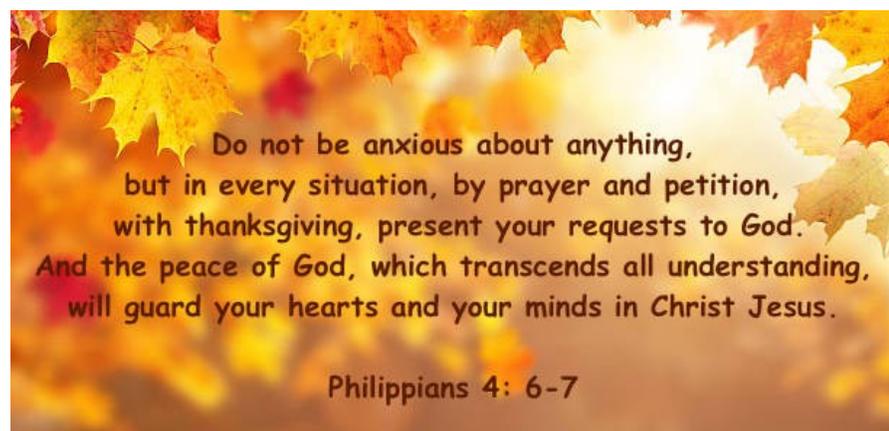
October 20

[Genesis 32:22-31](#)
[Psalm 121](#)
[2 Timothy 3:14-4:5](#)
[Luke 18:1-8](#)

October 27

[Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22](#)
[Psalm 84:1-7](#)
[2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18](#)
[Luke 18:9-14](#)

- September 1** Sixth Sunday of the Journeys of Faith: *Stormy Journeys*
Scripture Focus: *Mark 6:35-41*
Holy Communion Celebrated
Special Music; Indranie Perera; Jean Hergert, accompanist
- September 8** Kick-Off Sunday; Journeys of Faith Wrap-up: *Journeys That Heal*
Scripture Focus: *Luke 5:17-26*
Special Music: Marty Antonini and Friends
(Bring Your Adventure Symbol)
- September 15** Mission Celebration Sunday: *Moravian Day of Service*
Scripture Focus: *Luke 15:1-10, Parable of the Lost Sheep and Coin*
- September 22.** Lovefeast Sunday: *A Special Moravian Tradition*
Scripture Focus: *Luke 15:1-10 "Parable of Shrewd Manager*
Special Music: Kathy Pepers
- September 29.** Camp Celebration Sunday: *Experience the joy of a day at camp.*
Camp Songs and Skit; Wear your Camp T-Shirt
Noisy Offering/Birthday Sunday
- October 6** World-Wide Communion Sunday: *Faith as Mustard Seed*
Jean Hergert, accompanist
- October 13** Thanksgiving Sunday: *Special Thanksgiving Events*
Scripture Focus: *John 6:25-35, Bread from Heaven*
Special Music: CMC Singers, Kathy Pepers
- October 20** Friendship Sunday: *Bring a Friend to Share the Day*
Special Music: Marty Antonini
- October 27** Faith & Prayer Sunday; Scripture Focus: *Luke 18:9-14*
Special Music: Kathy Pepers on the Harp
Noisy Offering/Birthday Sunday



NEWS & EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Sundays

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

SEPTEMBER

1 Labour Day - Office Closed
 4 Women's Fellowship, 10am
 5 Long Range Task Force, 7pm
 7 Men's Breakfast, 8:30am
 8 Kick Off Sunday: Worship and Luncheon, 10:30am
 11 Southwood Chapel, 9:30am
 12 Canasta, 1pm
 15 - Open Door: Mission Sunday
 17 Acadia Food Pantry 10am
 18 Executive Board, 7pm
 20 Mustard Seed Lunches, 1pm
 21 Aging in Place Seminar, 9am
 24 Grief Support Group, 10am
 25 Knitting Group, 10:30am
 26 Canasta, 1pm
 27 Ladies' Tea, 1:15pm
 28 Van Es Dinner & Auction

October 6 - 27:

Food Bank Donations

OCTOBER

2 Women's Fellowship, 10am
 5 Men's Breakfast, 8:30am
 9 Southwood Chapel, 9:30am
 10 Canasta, 1pm
 14 Office Closed
 15 Acadia Food Pantry, 10am
 16 Executive Board, 7pm
 20 Open Door: "Job Fair"
 23 Knitting Group, 10:30am
 24 Canasta, 1pm
 25 Ladies' Tea, 1:15pm
 27 Newcomer's Group



Dinner & Silent Auction for Van Es

Saturday September 28th at 6pm
 Morning Star Hall, Camp Van Es
 Tickets: \$50

Since 1941, Camp Van Es has been a special place for spiritual retreat and renewal for both children and adults. While the mission and purpose of the camp have remained the same over the years, our methods have been adapted to nurture a changing culture. No longer simply a rustic summer camp, Van Es has expanded its retreat, spiritual renewal, and liturgical offerings for people who crave connection and spiritual growth.

In the coming year, Camp Van Es will renovate its historic 1950 Chapel and transform the manse to a small group spiritual retreat centre, in order to better meet these needs. To achieve this, however, we will need to raise funds to complete the renovations.

If you want to attend this event and would like to stay overnight at the VanEs Unity Lodge, please sign up in the entrance way or contact Donna Gordon.

Tickets are available from the Church Office or online at:

www.eventbrite.ca/e/gala-and-silent-auction-for-camp-van-es-tickets-69239528293.

If you are not able to attend this event, but would like to make a donation, contact the church office or use the Eventbrite link above.

AGING IN PLACE SEMINAR

Exploring Challenges and Opportunities

9 am – 3 pm
 Saturday, September 21, 2019

Christ Moravian Church
 600 Acadia Drive, SE

Aging in Place means having the health and social supports and services you need to live safely and independently in your home and community for as long as you wish and are able. Knowing your choices now could give you greater control over your future independence, quality of life and dignity.

FREE SEMINAR providing information and resources. Presented by Christ Moravian Church.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Kerby Centre: An overview to get you thinking about how to prepare for and respond to changes as you age so you may stay in your own home for as long as possible.

Age Friendly Calgary: City of Calgary and community strategies created to prepare for Calgary's aging population, including available public services and programs.

Alberta Health Services: Discussion of levels of Continuing Care with a focus on medical services and supports that are available through AHS Home Care.

REGISTER by September 10: Phone (403) 271-2700 or Email CMCEvents271@gmail.com

Transportation can be arranged. Includes "pay what you can" luncheon. Future sessions to be offered.

NEWS & EVENTS



Sunday School: Gloria Toole and the Christian Education team are busy planning another season of meaningful and loving Sunday School activities for CMC's children and youth.

Plans are underway to offer a youth class to augment the class for younger children. Speak with Gloria Toole for more information or if you feel God's calling to share in this important ministry with children and youth.

Hey Youth Group! Fall plans will be coming together soon, so speak with Jeff Pratt or Rev. Steve to get connected on the Youth Group chat group and get into some fun and faith-filled activities.

Long Range Task Force: Over the course of the last few months, the Long Range Task Force reviewed the comments received from the congregation and sorted the data into five core areas of ministry: worship, biblical teaching, proclamation, service and fellowship. The team is now preparing a final report, along with recommendations to be presented to your Executive Board later this year. More information will be coming from the Task Force this fall.



Bible Study: Sunday Morning Bible Study resumes September 15th, 2019 from 9:00-10:00 am. We are seeking to understand scripture as it applies to us today by looking at Brian McLaren's book, *We Make the Road*

by Walking - A Year Long Quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation, and Activation, which gives a fresh overview of the Bible. Please contact Barb or Michael Ward if you have any questions or need a book.

Thanksgiving Food Bank Collection: October 6 - 27

At this time of harvest and abundance we give thanks to our Lord for our rich blessings and encourage you to share with those in need. In lieu of donations to the food pantry, please bring in nonperishable food items for the Interfaith Food Bank.



Look for the shopping cart in the entranceway.

Mustard Seed: We welcome Wendy Bonner as the new co-ordinator for Mustard Seed Lunches. Serving with Wendy on the committee are Fay Fleming, Sadie Scott, Bobbie Callander and Dale Taylor. Our thanks go to Jean Driver for her many years of service as coordinator and to Al and Marge Michalko for their work on the committee. The next date for making Mustard Seed lunches is 1pm on September 20. Watch for the signup sheets at church. Contact Wendy or the church office if you have questions.

Men's Breakfast: On the first Saturday of the month you can enjoy a delicious breakfast accompanied by lively discussions on a wide variety of topics. Funds raised by this group are used to support worthy projects.



MEN'S BREAKFAST



Women's Fellowship:

Women's Fellowship meetings will resume at **10am on September 4**, with subsequent meetings on the first

Wednesday of each month. 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 supports the church through bake sales, candle making and catering of funerals and special events. For more information, contact Pat Wollf.

Knitting Group: The knitting group meets on the last Wednesday of the month and begins again for the fall on **September 25 at 10:30 am**. This year the group will be knitting toques and scarves for those living on the streets of Calgary. For more information, contact Sally Beatty.

Ladies Tea: The Ladies Tea will restart on **September 27 at 1:15pm** and will continue on the last Friday of the month. Bring a goodie and join us for lively conversation and a snack. For more information, contact Gloria Taylor.

OUTREACH AND MISSION & MORAVIAN MOMENT

Moravian Day of Service: *Making a Difference in Our Community and Beyond*

Imagine Moravians from across the U.S. and Canada all focused on mission in their community...all on the same day!



That's the idea behind The Moravian Day of Service, scheduled for September 15, 2019. The Moravian Day of Service sprang from the 2018 Synods of the Northern and Southern Provinces. These Synods recognized that coordinated efforts of Moravians can help engage others in service and ministry and raise awareness of the Gospel message. The Moravian Day of Service will be an annual event to help raise awareness of the importance of mission work to the Moravian faith, encourage congregations to think of new ways to make a difference in their communities, and demonstrate our ability to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

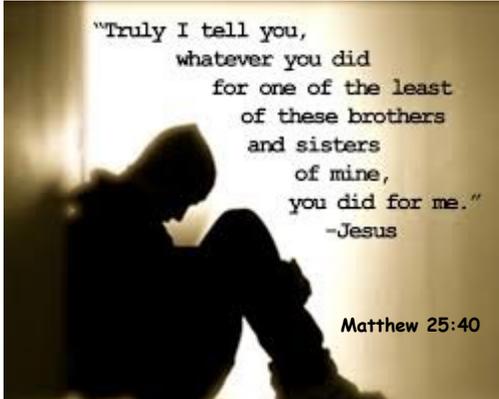
Christ Church embraces the Moravian tradition of compassionate engagement in local and worldwide mission and service. We have an active Mission and Outreach Committee that plans fundraising events, advises the Board on allocating mission funds, and works to build a lifestyle of service as the core of our congregation's identity. CMC will recognize Moravian Mission Sunday by celebrating the many projects that we have undertaken this year, some new and some long standing. Through the hard work of this committee and the generosity of our congregation, CMC has engaged in the following mission projects in this past year.

Acadia Place: Located in our neighbourhood, Acadia Place is a 58 unit apartment complex that houses a mixture of single adults, couples and families, including a high indigenous population. The majority of residents are families with children. As part of the Calgary Homeless Foundation's plan to end homelessness, Acadia Place provides low income housing for vulnerable Calgarians. CMC is partnered with KAIROS Calgary, an ecumenical organization that provides supports for Acadia Place as well as three other like buildings. Through CUPS (Calgary Urban Projects Society), CMC is working to develop relationships with residents of Acadia Place so that we may respond to their needs. In the past year, we have participated in three main initiatives in support of Acadia Place:

- **Christmas Hampers:** CMC provided Christmas Hampers for three families at Acadia Place.
- **Acadia Food Pantry:** This community initiative began in April of this year. The number of food insecure individuals and families accessing the food pantry continue to grow as news of this good work spreads. Involvement of Christ Church and its members is critical to the success of the food pantry. Without our volunteers and food donations, this program would not likely exist. As such, a financial donation of \$1200 (\$100/month) from the Mission Fund was made to help purchase additional food items for when donations are low. Please speak with Donna Gordon or Jody Gorai about volunteering.
- **Acadia Back to School Shoe Party:** Thanks to the generous donations of Christ Moravian Church and McDougall United Church, 60 children were registered to receive \$35 in Walmart cards for the purchase of new school shoes. A grant from the City of Calgary Strong Neighbourhoods initiative provided food and gift bags for the party held at McDougall Church on September 27.

Mustard Seed: The Mustard Seed is a Christian organization that meets the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness and poverty by providing emergency shelter, food, clothing and hygiene supplies. They also connect clients with safe, affordable housing and community supports. Every other month, a small group from CMC gather to make sandwiches and build lunches for the Mustard Seed using food donated by the congregation. In addition, CMC supports the Christmas Mustard Seed *Warm Feet for the Street* project by filling socks with hygiene products and other sundry items. www.theseed.ca

OUTREACH AND MISSION & MORAVIAN MOMENT - continued



CMC Garage Sale: The CMC Garage Sale is the biggest event of the year for our congregation. Its purpose is twofold, first, to provide service and outreach to the broader community, and second, to financially support the ongoing operation of the church. The involvement of every one of our members is the key to making this community event a success.

Calgary Food Bank: The Calgary Food Bank is the city's main charitable food hub and the most accessible food bank serving families and individuals facing food crisis. They also refer their clients to partner agencies and programs and collaborate with other agencies to fight hunger and address the root causes of food insecurity. During the month of October, we give thanks for God's abundant gifts by setting up a grocery cart to fill with nonperishable food donations for the Calgary

Food Bank. In addition to our Thanksgiving donations, a portion of our Christmas Eve offering (\$1550) was donated to the the Calgary Food Bank. The Calgary Food Bank welcomes volunteers to help with this program, www.calgaryfoodbank.com.

Labrador/Camp Van Es: The Moravian Church has had a strong presence in coastal Labrador since the first missionaries arrived there in the mid 1700s. Over the last few years, CMC has tried to build a connection with our fellow Canadian Moravians in Labrador. This year a \$1000 donation from the Mission Fund was sent to the Moravian Church in Newfoundland & Labrador to support two campers and two chaperones from Labrador to attend Camp VanEs in July. We are working with Board of World Mission personnel to examine different ways in which CMC can support our Canadian Moravian brothers and sisters in Labrador.

Lions Recycle for Sight: Calgary is the site of the Canadian Lion Recycling Centre that refurbishes used eyeglasses, prescription sunglasses and hearing aids. During Vision Month in May of each year, a box is set out at the church to collect these items which are then passed on to the Lion's Club to distribute to those in needed throughout the world. They are always looking for volunteers to help sort and refurbish the donated eyeglasses, www.clerc.ca.

Bottle Collection for Sri Lanka: This initiative was brought to CMM when Indranie Perera joined our congregation several years ago. She quietly collects donated beverage containers to support her philanthropic endeavours at a small village in Sri Lanka.

Rajpur Foster Child Project: The Moravian Institute in Rajpur, India provides a K-12 education for destitute children in Northern India. Preference is given to orphans and girls from disadvantaged castes or tribes so that they may break the bonds of poverty. Christ Church supports a child by providing room and board at a cost of \$1200 per year. These funds are raised by the children of our church through a monthly "Noisy Offering" collecting change.. Individual sponsors are also encouraged. www.rajpur.ca

Disaster Response: Although we did not fund any Disaster Response initiatives in this past year, in previous years, CMC has donated generously to those in our province, country and the Moravian world who are hurting because of natural disasters.

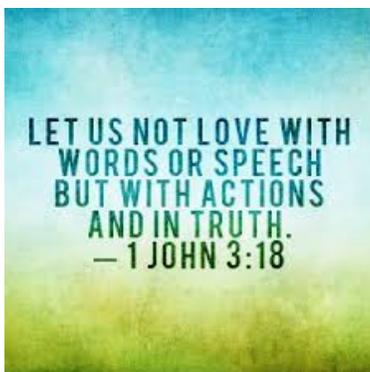
Aging in Place Seminar: The Outreach and Mission committee received a \$2000 USD grant from the Moravian Society for Promoting the Gospel (SPG) to develop a project that would support seniors in our community. These funds are being used to present an Aging in Place Seminar to be held at our church on September 21. More information can be found on page 3 of this newsletter. Registration is almost full, so please sign up now if you would like to attend.

OUTREACH AND MISSION & MORAVIAN MOMENT - continued

Board of World Mission (BWM): The BWM serves as the mission arm of the North American Moravian Church. It is modelled on the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, who crossed political boundaries, reached out in compassion, challenged the status quo, shared the Good News and brought transformative life and grace to all he met. In 2019, CMC supported the following initiatives of the BWM and its partners:



- Moravian Church in Cuba/Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation (ARMF):** Christ Church began its relationship with the Moravian Church in Cuba in January 2013 when we first learned of its existence. Four travellers took clothing, school supplies and nonprescription medicines donated by CMC to Havana and met with the founder of the newly recognized Moravian Church in Cuba, Armando Rusindo. Since then, CMC has maintained its relationship with Cuba by helping to fund the purchase and renovation of two homes in Havana for use by the Moravian Church in Cuba. One building is now their church and headquarters and the other is the Comenius Centre used for outreach to underprivileged children in a poor part of Havana. In 2016, eight members from CMC travelled to Cuba to help with the restoration of the Comenius Centre. This year a \$1000 donation from the Mission Fund was made to the ARMF, a group from the Moravian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina that works directly with the Moravian Church in Cuba to further its goals of outreach and mission to the people of Cuba. This includes additional children's centres throughout the country, installation of clean water systems and the development of small business, such as farms, that help support the church financially while providing for those in need. www.armfcuba.org
- Adopt A Village Program in Tanzania:** This project began as a community based orphan assistance program for children who had lost their parents as a result of the HIV crisis in Africa. The objective was to keep these children in their extended families where they were living by providing the caregivers, usually grandparents, with the material support they needed, such as extra food, clothing, school supplies and medical care. Participating congregations were paired with a village to provide these supports for a modest \$1000 per year. With the help of a private donor, CMC has supported the village of Moria since 2014. As the HIV crisis has abated greater attention has been paid to allowing children to further their education beyond grade school and to develop economic opportunities within the village. www.moravianmission.org/about/who-we-work-with/adopt-a-village
- Moravian Medical Clinic in Ahuas, Honduras:** This clinic was established in 1946 to provide medical services to indigenous Miskitu refugees who had moved to rural Honduras to escape the dangers of political turmoil in Nicaragua. Over time, Moravians in North America developed a special bond with this clinic and its subsequent outreach initiatives with the Miskitu people, including a baby wellness program that provides nutritional support and parenting education for families with babies and infants. Half of our Christmas Eve donation, \$1550, went to support the baby wellness program. www.moravianmission.org/medical-work



*Join us for an Open Door Meeting to be held
September 15, following worship service, to discuss
the role of mission in the life of our congregation.*

*If you would like to join the Outreach and Mission Committee
or help in any way, please speak with Donna Gordon, or Pat Wolff.*