

**BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION:**

- **MCC low on emergency resources** - because of humanitarian crises in places including Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Gaza and South Sudan, MCC has more than doubled its distribution of emergency resources this year from the previous year. There is now a critical shortage of funds for emergency assistance and of material resources including kits and blankets. Call [\(204\)261-6381](tel:(204)261-6381) or visit <http://donate.mcccanada.ca/relief> to help MCC continue to provide critical assistance to thousands in these areas.
- **Christmas Giving** - Un-frustrate your Christmas giving this year! Give a gift of hope with **MCC's Christmas giving program**. Visit <http://donate.mcccanada.ca> or call our office at [\(204\)261-6381](tel:(204)261-6381).

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**Aberdeen Evangelical Mennonite Church**

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**204 - 221-3000 (office)**

**Sunnie Friesen, Pastor**

**204 - 226 - 8080 (cell)**

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Office Hours:

Tues. - Fri. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Charles Paetkau,**

**Trinity Place Building Manager**

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Office Hours:

Tues., Thurs., Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Wed. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Mo Klippenstein, Secretary**

**204 - 221-3000 (office)**

Office Hours:

Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Fourth Advent December 21, 2014**

***Oh, that you would reveal your love.***

*In a world of loneliness and isolation God makes a home with us.*

***Inviting the Mystery***

Welcome

Old Testament Reading

Psalms 89

Congregational Singing

STS 1 Praise the One

HWB 178 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Congregational Singing

STS 15 Hope is a candle (v. 1,2,3,4)

***Engaging the Mystery***

Confession

Words of Assurance

Psalms 23

Passing the Peace

Advent Poetry

The Visitation

Silence

Congregational Singing

HWB 180 The angel Gabriel

Setting the Creche

Stories of Waiting, Herb

Congregational Sharing

Prayer of the Church

***Celebrating the Mystery***

New Testament Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

Congregational Singing

STS 16 Peace before us (hope, peace, joy, love)

Pete and Sol

Offering

Announcements

Congregational Singing

HWB 211 Lo, how a rose

Benediction

Worship Leader: Sunnie

Song Leader: Mo

Accompanist: Deb

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- **Aberdeen Food Bank** - Next meets on Jan. 10 and Jan 24.



**Birthday This Week:** Melinda Dec. 22

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Christmas Greetings have come to the office from Healthy Start, the staff/faculty at SBC and everyone at CMU.
- **FINANCIAL UPDATE:** 94% of our donation budget has been received to date. We require \$5,400 to reach our goal of \$90,000.

**Advent Services:**

Today Advent 4 *Love*

Dec. 28 Christmas 1 *Beauty*

Jan. 4 Epiphany *Mystery*



**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- for Ruth and Ron as they grieve the loss of her mother Susan. May God bring comfort and peace to them and their family.
- for the Anabaptist churches in Nigeria (The Church of the Brethren) experiencing first-hand the horrendous violence and persecution of the Boko Haram.
- for a 'shower' of peace, hope and goodwill for all the Middle East churches.
- Thank you for your prayers, care, tears, hugs and gentleness during these past months. By the grace of God and this community I am able to face each new day ~ Pastor Sunnie.



Coffee for next week Dec. 28 – Kan and Sorn

Upcoming coffee for Jan 4 – Mo and Rudy

### **Psalm 23** (New Living Translation)

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I have all that I need.  
He lets me rest in green meadows;  
he leads me beside peaceful streams.  
He renews my strength.  
He guides me along right paths,  
bringing honor to his name.  
Even when I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I will not be afraid,  
for you are close beside me.  
Your rod and your staff  
protect and comfort me.  
You prepare a feast for me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You honor me by anointing my head with oil.  
My cup overflows with blessings.  
Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will live in the house of the LORD  
forever.

### **Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26** (New Living Translation)

I will sing of the LORD's unfailing love forever!  
Young and old will hear of your faithfulness.  
Your unfailing love will last forever.  
Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens.  
The LORD said, "I have made a covenant with David, my chosen servant.  
I have sworn this oath to him:  
'I will establish your descendants as kings forever;  
they will sit on your throne from now until eternity.'"  
  
Long ago you spoke in a vision to your faithful people.  
You said, "I have raised up a warrior.

I have selected him from the common people to be king.  
I have found my servant David.  
I have anointed him with my holy oil.  
I will steady him with my hand;  
with my powerful arm I will make him strong.  
His enemies will not defeat him,  
nor will the wicked overpower him.  
I will beat down his adversaries before him  
and destroy those who hate him.  
My faithfulness and unfailing love will be with him,  
and by my authority he will grow in power.  
I will extend his rule over the sea,  
his dominion over the rivers.  
And he will call out to me, 'You are my Father,  
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.'

### **Luke 1:26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

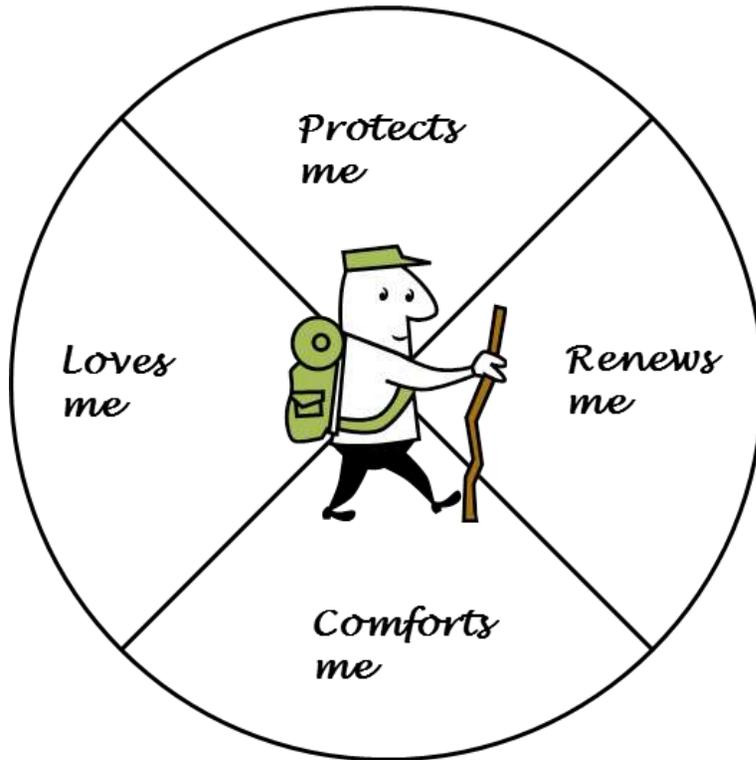
The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.



### Call to Worship

Leader: Come let us worship in faith the God who is here and desires our worship (pause).

Redeeming God, work in our hearts, that our worship would be filled with your redeeming love.

**All: Oh, that you would reveal your love to us, O Lord.**

Leader: When Mary was sent away, she found an embrace in your arms.

**People: When we feel isolated by the world, we find security in your kingdom.**

Leader: The world does not see us as you do, O Lord.

**People: They do not value us as the eternal One does.**

Leader: The world cannot love us like you do, O Lord.

**People: They cannot comfort us as our Creator does.**

**All: When others abandon us, God makes a home with us.**

