

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

- **Christmas Giving** - Un-frustrate your Christmas shopping 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.
- **Providence Festival of Christmas Praise**, featuring Providence University Choir, Music Faculty, and Winnipeg Brass Quintet – **Fri., Dec. 4 and Sat., Dec. 5th, 7:30 pm, RW Affleck Chapel**, Providence Campus.
- You are invited to **L'Arche Winnipeg's Christmas Pageant, Wed., Dec. 9, 7 pm at the Christian Family Centre**, 81 Henderson Hwy. Refreshments to follow! Donations will be donated to Hospitality House Winnipeg to help refugees come to and settle in Canada.
- **CMU Advent Vespers, Sun., Dec. 20, 7 pm, in the Laudamus Auditorium**. The worship will be led by choir conductor Alan Janzen and worship leader President Cheryl Pauls. A reception will follow.
- **Urgent need – housing for refugees**. Do you have a basement suite, or know others who do? Are you a landlord who could make a house or apartment available at a very reasonable rent? If you can help, please contact MCC at (204)925-1910 or joannaschellenberg@mccmb.ca.
- **Evening Sermons from PA 2015**: Visit the MWC website and read the full text of the evening sermons from PA 2015, by César García, Yukari Kaga, Nzuzi Mukwa, Wieteke van der Molen and Bruxy Cavey.

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**Aberdeen Evangelical Mennonite Church**  
**265 Flora Ave., R2W 2R2**  
**204 - 221-3000 (office)**

**Sunnie Friesen, Pastor**

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

[aberdeenchurch1@gmail.com](mailto:aberdeenchurch1@gmail.com)

Office Hours:

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

**Mo Klippenstein, Secretary**

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

Office Hours:

Fri. 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Office email: [aberdeenchurch2@gmail.com](mailto:aberdeenchurch2@gmail.com)

**First Advent November 29, 2015**  
**The Path of Justice**

**Focus Statement:** *The prophets declare that God's justice is coming through the promised Messiah. A moment of moral and spiritual clarity awaits us in this Advent as we pray for God's Spirit to strengthen our hearts and lead us on pathways of justice. Freed from what keeps us captive, we can live in more caring and just ways.*

**Gathering**

Prelude  
Welcome  
Call to Worship  
Prayer of Invocation  
Congregational Songs           HWB 184 Hark! The glad sound!  
                                          STS 20 Walking slowly unto Beth'lem  
Lighting the Advent Candle

**Hearing the Word**

Congregational Sharing and Prayer  
Offering  
Scripture Reading           Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10,  
                                          Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Congregational Song       HWB 172 O come, O come, Immanuel  
Sermon                         Heather

**Responding**

Congregational Song       STS 2 Maranatha, come  
Communion                 Sunnie  
Announcements  
Sending Song               STS 3 Come, Light of the world  
Benediction

Worship Leader: Ruth  
Song Leader: Mo  
Accompanist: Emily

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- **Aberdeen Food Bank** - Next meets on Dec. 12 and Jan. 9, 2016.



**Birthdays This Week:** Garry on Nov. 30, Marilyn and Niebuhr on Dec. 4.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Today** – Adult Sunday School “Monday to Friday Faith Stories.”

**Advent Themes: Freedom Bound**

**Today Advent 1** *The Path of Justice ~ Communion*

**Dec. 6 Advent 2** *The Path of Mercy*

**Dec. 13 Advent 3** *The Path of Trust ~ Christmas Coffee Time*

**Dec. 20 Advent 4** *The Path of Love*



**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- MWC - Praise God that the new constitution in Nepal provides citizens the right to freely practice, profess and preserve their religion according to their faith, including Christianity. However, there are some protests. Pray for the Anabaptist churches and ministries in Nepal in the midst of a difficult political situation.
- *Prayers for COP21 Paris!* Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ) has prepared materials to support church action on climate change. As world leaders gather in Paris to finalize an international climate agreement, Canadian Christians are mobilizing in support of an ambitious action-oriented commitment! CPJ invites you to join *Prayers for COP21 Paris* by using the [worship resources](#) (sermons, prayers, hymns), joining the Canada-wide [prayer chain](#), and signing the [climate justice petition](#). Learn more and get involved at [cpj.ca/climate](http://cpj.ca/climate). CPJ is a national organization of members inspired by faith to act for justice in Canadian public policy.



Coffee for next week Dec. 6 – Henry and Darlene  
Upcoming coffee for Dec, 13 – Peter and Marlene

## Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

The road signs are all around us to be more compassionate;  
the rest stops to offer hope to others;  
the time to work for justice and bring freedom to the oppressed.  
Yet we are too overwhelmed, scared, prejudiced and exhausted  
to struggle along with vulnerable.

God of salvation help us remember the mercy you offer each of us.  
That mercy which forgives us; that mercy which makes us whole;  
and especially, that living mercy who came as a babe  
to walk beside us that night so long ago,  
Jesus the Advent of our redemption.

AMEN

## Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 25:1-10; Luke 21:25-36)

Leader: We live in troubled times, waiting for God's burst of light  
in our dark world.

**People: Lift up your eyes! God's justice is on the way.**

Leader: Liberating God, sustain us and help us to walk in your ways.

**People: Free us from prejudice and the shackles of sin.**

Leader: This is the moment to wake from sleep.  
Be ready, Jesus is coming to set us free.

**All: Let us worship God, whose mercy promises us new life  
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Lighting the Advent Candle

1: Together, we light this first candle of Advent  
in anticipation of God's justice breaking in.

**2: In the midst of our realities and the realities of the world,  
God longs to free us from all that holds us captive to fear,  
confusion, even despair.**

1: We light this candle as a reminder to take heart.  
God is coming to make things right.

**2: The path God reveals is freedom. Freedom from fear.**

All: Freedom from sin. Freedom from injustice