

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

- **Xplore: At the Intersection of Faith and Life**, A 55-Plus Enrichment Program. Courses begin this **Wed., March 9**. There is still time to register at cmu.ca/xplore or register at the first class.
- **You are invited to upcoming concerts at CMU including:**
 - The Mennonite Community Orchestra, March 13 at 3 pm in the CMU Chapel
 - Bells and Whistles with Strings Attached, April 3 at 7 pm in the Laudamus Auditorium.
 - Jazz at CMU, April 6 at 7 pm in the Great Hall
- **Germinating Conversations** - Reflecting deeply, spiritually and theologically about land may be one of the best ways that we can move ourselves forward into action on ecological challenges. Gather with others – farmers, eaters, theologians and pastors - to listen, think and respond to challenges around life with the land. There will be discussion, and there will be food! Come to **Marpeck Commons at CMU on March 17 @ 7pm** to join in this installment of **Germinating Conversations** sponsored by MCC Manitoba, CMU, and Arocha Prairie Canada. Contact StevePlenert@MCCMB.ca with questions.
- **SBC Leadership Conference**, *Living Non-Violently in a Violent World*, with Dr. Preston Sprinkle, **March 18-19**. See poster on bulletin board for more information.
- You're invited to **A Fresh Look at CMU: A Spring Evening Fundraiser** in support of CMU **on Thurs., April 7, 7 – 9 pm**. The evening will begin with your program choice in one of three different campus locations - Marpeck Commons, the Great Hall, and the Laudamus Auditorium, following which we will gather in the Loewen Athletic Centre. For more information go to cmu.ca/afreshlook.

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**Aberdeen Evangelical Mennonite Church**  
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Office Hours:

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

**Lent 4 Sunday, March 6, 2016**  
***Living Ink: Turning Over a New Leaf***

**Focus Statement:** *As we turn over the page of each chapter in the grand covenant narrative, we find ourselves invited to “re-turn” to the open arms of Christ and his ways, and to experience his good news of reconciliation.*

**Gathering**

Call to Worship:

*Leader: If you are delighted to be here, and if you are tired or troubled,*

**All: You are welcome.**

*Leader: If your faith is strong, and if your faith is battered and frail,*

**All: You are welcome.**

*Leader: If you are eager to praise God, and if you need to be quiet,*

**All: You are welcome.**

*Leader: God welcomes us all to worship today and promises to meet us here.*

Opening Prayer

Congregational Singing HWB 582 Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah  
HWB 511 God, who touches earth with beauty

**Hearing**

Scripture Reading Joshua 5:9-15; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sharing the Experiences of Renewal

Congregational Singing STJ 89 I was there to hear your borning cry  
HWB 623 When love is found

Sermon Esther

**Responding**

Congregational Sharing and Prayer

Offertory Most of all let love guide you (insert)

Announcements

Sending Song STJ 73 The Lord lift you up

Benediction

Worship Leader: Joan

Song Leader: Sol

**2016 Lent and Easter Services: "Living Ink"**

**Tonight** Communion and Footwashing at 6:30 pm

**Lent 5** Mar. 13 *An Unexpected Twist* John 12:1-8

**Palm Sunday** Mar. 20 *The Plot Thickens* Luke 22-23

**Maunder Thursday** Mar. 24 at 6:00 pm Agape Meal

**Good Friday** Mar. 25 at 10:00 am

**Easter** Mar 27 Breakfast at 9:30 am; Worship at 11:00 am

*The End of the Beginning* John 20:1-18

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- **Ministerial Meeting** – Tues. Mar. 8, 6 pm at Charlotte's.
- **Food Bank** - Next meets on Mar. 19 and April 2

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **This evening, 6:30 pm** Communion and Footwashing
- This morning Brad and Murray will continue to lead adult Sunday School in the book study of Richard Rohr's *Falling Upwards*.
- Join us on **Easter Sunday at 9:30 am** for an **Easter Breakfast Potluck** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring brunch items and Easter treats to share. Guests are welcome.



Coffee for March 13 – Marvin and Sunnie

Upcoming Coffee for March 20 – Jim and Deb

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Pray for those from our congregation who are travelling this month, for work or for pleasure. We especially want to remember Teresa in Ecuador and Sol on his way to Laos and India.
- Continue to pray for those who are dealing with health issues.

**Lent 4: Responding to the Story**

~ When did you need God's strength in turning over a new leaf? Where or how did you experience God's help to feel renewed?

### **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father.

But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been

working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’

Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

### **Joshua 5:9-15**

The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Once when Joshua was by Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?” He replied, “Neither; but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and he said to him, “What do you command your servant, my lord?” The commander of the army of the Lord said to Joshua, “Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy.” And Joshua did so.

### **Most of all let love guide you**

Most of all let love guide you.  
Most of all let love be true.  
No need to play those games,  
so make love your greatest aim.  
Most of all let love guide you.

Be aware of what’s inside.  
Be aware of what you hide.  
Be honest with the one  
Who loves you as you are.  
Be aware of what’s inside.

Repeat verse 1