

## **BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION**

- You are invited to **upcoming concerts at CMU** including:
  - The Mennonite Community Orchestra, March 13 at 3 pm** in the CMU Chapel
  - CMU Vespers, March 20 at 7 pm** in the Laudamus Auditorium with Mel Braun conducting and Dietrich Bartel leading worship
  - 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
- You are invited to the following **public lectures at CMU**:
  - Germinating Conversations: Food Land Theology Spirit** with Dr. Martin Entz, Rev. Dr. Cathy Campbell, and Dr. Paul Doerksen, March 17 at 7 pm, Marpeck Commons
  - The Impact of Christian-Muslim Relations on World Peace** with Dr. Mohammad Ali Shomali, Director of the Islamic Centre of England and the Founding Director of the International Institute for Islamic Studies, March 30 from 7-9 pm, Marpeck Commons
- **Feast of Words** - Good books and great food collide on **March 15 at Sam's Place!** Six courses of food will be paired with readings from books *Anne of Green Gables, James and the Giant Peace, Home, Crossing to Safety* and *A Fork in the Road*. **Funds raised will support youth engagement work at Sam's Place.** Tickets - \$35. Space is limited - **reserve by March 15** by contacting [manager@samsplacebooks.com](mailto:manager@samsplacebooks.com) or [204-418-4728](tel:204-418-4728).
- **IVEP night** - Join this year's Manitoban participants in MCC's International Volunteer Exchange Program for a taste of the stories, music and food from their home countries—Brazil, Columbia, Ethiopia, Indonesia and Venezuela. **Thurs., March 17 at 7 pm, Sam's Place.**
- Mennonite Gallery: *Stories in Art: From Iraqi Kurdistan*. Opening on Sat., April 2, at 7:30 pm. Showing April 2-May 14, 2016.
- You're invited to **A Fresh Look at CMU: A Spring Evening Fundraiser** in support of CMU **on Thurs., April 7, 7 – 9 pm**. For more information go to [cmu.ca/afreshlook](http://cmu.ca/afreshlook).

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

Sunnie Friesen, Pastor

204 - 226 - 8080 (cell)

**Lent 5 Sunday, March 13, 2016**  
***Living Ink: An Unexpected Twist***

**Focus Statement:** *The Grand Author works in mysterious ways – ways that we often find to be inexplicably, extravagantly generous. The twists that are thrown into the plot are counterintuitive to our human ways of seeing things. Where one would expect only to find a vast, dry, barren desert, we discover a refreshing, anointing, life-giving stream of hospitality.*

**Gathering**

Welcome  
Call to Worship  
Prayer of Invocation  
Congregational Singing STJ 28 We worship God the rock  
HWB 521 Come thou fount

**Hearing God's Word**

Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation  
Words of Assurance  
Passing the Peace  
Congregational Singing STJ 49 Rain down  
STJ 71 Alleluia, the great storm is over  
Scripture Reading *Isaiah 43:16-21, John 12:1-8*  
Message Jeremy  
Congregational Singing STS 89 Christ is alive

**Congregational Response**

Sharing and Prayer  
Offering Bev and Everett  
Announcements  
Congregational Singing STJ 65 Let justice flow  
Benediction

Worship Leader: Sunnie  
Song Leader: Mo  
Accompanist: Deb

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

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

- **Food Bank** - Next meets on Mar. 19 and April 2

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- This morning Brad and Murray will continue to lead adult Sunday School in the book study of Richard Rohr's *Falling Upwards*.
- Khalid began his work as our new janitor this week.
- Join us on **Easter Sunday at 9:30 am** for an **Easter Breakfast Potluck** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring brunch items and Easter treats to share. Guests are welcome.



Coffee for March 20 – Jim and Deb  
Upcoming Coffee for April 3 – Pete and Sharon

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- For the joy of new birth in the arrival of Mia Rose born to Scott and Sina, Sunday, March 6.
- For our North End neighbours who are searching for joy, hope and new beginnings. May they find welcome in the services provided through our building and in this community.



**Birthdays This Week** Tonya on March 14  
Ron, Joan, and Henry on March 16

### Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

### John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

### Call to Worship

The Lord makes a way through the rough waters of life.

**God provides us with fresh starts and new paths to journey together Leader:**

The Lord forms us as a people  
**and we declare God's praise!**

The Lord has done great things for us!

**We will celebrate God's new creations in our midst!**

### Lent 4: Responding to the Story

† How has God made a way for me in the past?

† Am I going through a desert right now? Can I see God making a way for me?

† Do I dwell on past experiences that keep me from allowing God to do a "new thing"?

† Can I trust God and others with my desert experiences?

**Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation – Because** (inspired by John 12: 1-8) by Thom M. Shuman

because  
we have preserved our joy  
in manna jars  
for the long winter of despair,  
storing them in the dark corners  
of our souls,  
we have forgotten  
its gritty taste;

**because  
we have put a tight lid  
on our joy,  
and put it in the back  
of the pantry,  
we have forgotten  
how it can tickle  
our noses;**

because  
we are so busy  
prattling pious platitudes  
about the poor, the least, the lost,  
we ignore your words  
which anoint them  
as your children;

**because  
we have put up  
the shutters and storm doors  
to keep your future  
from sneaking in,  
we have missed  
the sweet breeze  
carrying your hope  
to us;**

because  
we are who we are,  
restore us, Holy Grace,  
and make us  
a fragrant offering  
to the world.