

Mennonite Church Canada Special Assembly October 2017

At the MC Canada Special Assembly in Winnipeg, Delegates voted 94% in favour of reimagining how we are to be church together across Canada. With this change, the 5 Regional Churches of Mennonite Church Canada will work together in implementing our nationwide-shared priorities and programs. Please continue to pray and support the work we do together as we make these transitions and live into our new reality.

Transitions and Updates

Beginning October 1, **Kirsten Hamm-Epp** took on the role of Interim Executive Director at Shekinah for a 6 month term. **Katie Reimer-Wiebe** has taken on the Youth programming during this time at .25 FTE. **Marianne Siemens'** hours have also changed – she is now in the office Monday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings and all day Tuesday & Friday. Please keep the staff in your prayers as they adjust to their new roles.

Ed Olfert has accepted the call to serve as pastor of Grace Mennonite Church, Prince Albert. Ed began on Nov 1, 2017 and will be installed on Dec. 17. He will be serving .5 FTE.

Ric Driediger was installed and Licensed for Specific Ministry as pastor of Zoar Mennonite Church, Langham on Nov 26

Ben Pauls will be retiring from Zoar Mennonite Church, Waldheim on Dec 31.

Lois Siemens will be resigning as pastor from Superb Mennonite Church on Dec. 31.

2018 Annual Delegate Sessions

Our Annual Delegate Sessions will be on March 9 & 10, 2018 at Zion Mennonite Church in Swift Current. Registration will start at noon on Friday, with the first session **beginning at 1:30 pm on Friday afternoon**. Registration forms are available from your church office or online at www.mcsaskca/registrations/

Join us for a visit to China without leaving Saskatchewan!

January 28, 2018 4 p.m.

Mount Royal Mennonite Church, Saskatoon

You are invited to an afternoon of fun, learning and inspiration with international ministry workers George and Tobia Veith. Try your hand at Chinese brush calligraphy. Learn to skip rope the Chinese way. Hear updates from and interact with the Chinese pastors hosted in Saskatchewan in 2014. Be inspired and challenged by stories of your brothers and sisters on the other side of the world and hear about the work of Mennonite Partners in China. There will be a pot luck supper. Bring cold or hot dishes, Chinese/Asian food if possible.



Refresh, Refocus, Renew

After prayerfully going through the responses from the second mini-retreat, three themes have bubbled to the surface; 1) deepening our attention to God's presence in our lives, 2) deepening our Anabaptist understanding for the 21st century, and 3) deepening our journey towards of reconciliation. Continue to pray for the work of RRR as we work with Betty Pries and prepare to present at our Annual Delegate Sessions in Swift Current.

Coming Events & Deadlines:

Holiday hours at MC Sask: The office will be closed from December 22 – January 2 as we celebrate Christmas with our families

Jan 10 MC Sask Council, MCC Building

Jan 28 “Visit to China without leaving Saskatchewan” event at Mount Royal Mennonite, Saskatoon

Feb 6-7 CMU ReNew: Resourcing Pastors for Ministry

Mar 9-10 MC Sask ADS, Zion Mennonite Church, Swift Current

MCSask Winter Update 2017, Youth Program

Upcoming Mega Menno/ SMYO Events:

January 26-28: SMYO Sr High Retreat @ Shekinah Retreat Centre

February 9: Friday Night Live @ RJC

March 9: Mega Menno in Swift Current, hosted by SMYO committee (gr. 6-12)

April 3-4: Mega Menno Event: Honouring the Earth (gr. 6-12)

In addition to our new SMYO committee members who joined in summer, we've also welcomed one more committee member this fall: Nathan Bartel, who is studying at RJC this school year.



So far, our year's theme, “Answering your Call”, has shown to be very prominent for some of our youth and leaders. With a few grade 12 students on the SMYO committee, we've talked what answering your call can look like while we plan for life after high school.

The SMYO committee did a fantastic job leading their first worship service of the year at Osler Mennonite in November. It was great to see our committee share their gifts with the congregation and be supported in the church. We're looking forward to our next worship service in March.



**As your MC Sask staff,
we want to wish you a
very Merry Christmas
and a New Year full of Blessings!
Ryan, Kirsten, Katie & Marianne**