



## Transitions

- Wilmer & Barb Froese completed their term as Interim Pastors at Tiefengrund Rosenort MC on December 31, 2020
- Andrea Enns-Gooding will complete her term as pastor at Zoar MC on May 31<sup>st</sup>, and begin as pastor of Rosthern MC July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Gary Peters retired from Hanley MC on April 4,
- Harry Harder will retire from Pleasant Point MC on May 15.
- Len Rempel will begin as pastor at Warman MC & Pleasant Point MC in June.

## MC Sask Worship Services

During these days of ongoing recorded services, MC Sask has prepared several worship services to be used to give worship leaders, preachers, tech people, and others, a break. They are available at <https://mcsask.ca/mcsaskworshipservices>

## Ministries Commission

**Walking the Path** is preparing to film a documentary telling the story of Ancient Echoes, an ancient sacred First Nations site near Herschel in the Rural Municipality of Mountainview. Barring complications due to COVID-19 restrictions, filming will begin this June. This documentary not only keeps alive the memory of this site and the people who met Creator there, but it also honours the history of the First Nations people in our communities.

**Creation Care** encourages congregations to contact Mark Bigland-Pritchard who can lead you through care for creation conversations. These materials were developed by *For the Love of Creation*, as a faith-in-action process. This action-oriented campaign provides guidance for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and demonstrates support for increased federal climate action. Jeanette Hanson is collecting stories of creation care taking place here in Saskatchewan as well as internationally. These stories will be posted and made available for use in our congregations.

## Youth Ministry

### March 27 - Virtual Youth Retreat Exceeds Expectations!



With Gather (the event's online platform) being new to many, no one knew quite what to expect coming into the day, yet between the unique, interactive virtual map and the goodness that comes from being together after too long apart, the retreat was able to meet and exceed expectations, and was really fun!

Highlights included exploring the map, the Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt, and online games like Telestrations!

**Thanks to all those who participated!**

Details regarding a follow-up resource and additional online events coming soon!



To donate to the work of MC Sask locally, nationwide and internationally go to <https://mcsask.ca/giving>

## Youth Farm Bible Camp



It was great to see people come out for our Snow Maze. We were limiting numbers and many weekends were sold out well in advance. CTV and Global did news stories on it and the Saskatchewaner made a great video. It was great to see families having safe fun - it was a treat to serve others. Unfortunately it is now melted.

## Camp Elim



Camp Elim is inviting applications for the position of Executive Director, starting May 2021. This is a full time position, based at Camp Elim, 48 km south of Swift Current, SK on beautiful Lac Pelletier. For more information about the Executive Director role or about Camp Elim, go to [www.campelim.ca](http://www.campelim.ca). Please forward your cover letter and resume to Ryan Siemens at [minister@mcsask.ca](mailto:minister@mcsask.ca).

## Shekinah



As public health orders continue to keep Shekinah in lock-down, we are excited to be renovating our cabins to allow people to enjoy the beauty of Shekinah! We are rewiring and rethinking these spaces and are adding composting toilets for more convenience. Our hope is to give individuals and families a space to renew their spirits this summer.

## Congregations and COVID

**Osler MC** had the best intergenerational attendance ever at our Annual General Meeting Zoom on Feb 6, with Osler store donuts delivered to participants. It helped that it was -55 degrees with nowhere else to go! With encouraging reports of creative adaptations in worship, Zoom fellowship and service fundraisers, we also wrestled with questions of federal monies. Thankfully we are surviving the pandemic and in some ways thriving. *Patty Friesen, pastor*

**Laird MC:** With Covid we have been exercising in the area of online worship. We have started slowly and stumblingly, but we have improved to the point where we now include online as part of our regular worship. We had an annual meeting, without Zoom; we just put some questions and the budget in an email and wait for responses. It is nice to gather again and to actually meet people, even if behind a mask. We are trying to learn what it means to be church without the building, something that is still a struggle. We are doing well enough, but we are essentially sitting still, at least for the moment. But that's not the fault of the pandemic. We are surviving and learning, a good place to be! *Bruce Jantzen, pastor*

**Eyebrow MC** has been meeting in our building for worship services since middle of June. One of the blessings of being a small church is that we are just under the 30 person limit! At this time we aren't offering Sunday School. But when we were meeting by Zoom I started "A Moment to Make You Smile" during our worship service. These Moments include pictures and/or videos of baby animals and sea creatures to extraordinary birds and flowers to music and children from different parts of the world. They make more than just the children smile as we appreciate the wonder of God's amazing creation! We have not had any COVID in Eyebrow, which is another blessing of being part of a small community! *Sharon Schultz, pastor*

## Mennonite Church Canada

In this spring season of renewal and growth, newly formed leadership groups are providing discernment for our nationwide community of faith. The Intercultural Church Steering Committee is discerning ways our denomination embraces equity, diversity and inclusion of our BIPOC members and congregations. The Sustainability Leadership Group identifies how Mennonite Church Canada can improve its environmental and social impacts, while remaining economically sustainable. The Community of Spiritual Leaders nurtures our Anabaptist identity, supports leaders and leadership development and discerns issues for the church and themes for our nationwide gatherings.

## Coming Events

**October 16 & 17: Songfest of Thanks** – watch for details coming soon!

**November 15-19: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Preaching** with Meghan Good

This 5-day intensive course, will be available for credit through CMU or for Audit through MC Sask.