

Fall 2024 UPDATE



MC Sask Town Hall Meetings

One of the key roles and responsibilities of MC Sask Council and staff is to listen to the voices within MC Sask as Council seeks to guide and lead the church as a regional body. There are several items that Council has been discussing over the past year and, together with staff, we would like to hear from you, our congregations. We seek your wisdom and guidance as we plan for the future and respond to the needs of our church and our communities.

We would like to meet with leaders and interested people within our congregations and hear your thoughts about youth, volunteer positions & structure, finances, and connectedness.

To date we have held meetings in Fiske and Regina.

Please join us at one of the upcoming meetings:

Carrot River, November 3 at 9:45 am

Drake, November 4 at 7:00 pm

Glenbush, November 17

Osler, November 20 at 7:00 pm

Saskatoon (Wildwood Mennonite), November 21 at 7:00 pm

Eyebrow, January 12/2025

Swift Current, February 2/2025

MC Sask Gathering

Planning is already underway for the 2025 MC Sask Gathering (Annual Delegate Sessions) that will be co-hosted by RJC High School and Rosthern Mennonite Church on March 7 & 8, 2025 . Our theme is “Differences for the Common Good” and our guest speaker is Fanosie Legesse, MCEC Intercultural Mission Minister. We are looking forward to meeting together and having the youth have an event that will run at the same time. Save the date and watch for details!

Youth



Kirsten Hamm-Epp ran her last MegaMenno event in September at the Youth Farm Corn Maze. It was a great time filled with games, animals, treats, and overly rambunctious singing! Since then, **Evan Bueckert** was hired as Interim Youth Minister. Evan is also the Associate Pastor at MRMC where he works mostly with Youth



and Young Adults. The first event he will be leading will be on November 1 at the MCC building where some special guests will be sharing some of their experiences with MCC around the world!

Mega Menno events are open to all youth in gr. 6-12 connected to an MC Sask congregation, school, or community. Friends are always welcome! Please contact Evan Bueckert for more info at youthminister@mcsask.ca.

Transitions & Staff Updates

- ◆ **Rodney Hennessey** concluded his time as Pastor at Grace Mennonite Church on July 28, 2024.
- ◆ **Lisi Schröttner** was installed as Co-Pastor at Wildwood Mennonite Church on October 13, 2024.
- ◆ **Evan Bueckert** was installed as Associate Pastor at Mount Royal Mennonite Church on October 20, 2024. He also began as Interim Youth Minister for MC Sask on October 10, 2024
- ◆ **Lois Siemens** will be concluding her time as Spiritual Care Coordinator at Bethany Manor the end of November 2024.

Malipayon Peace Hub Fundraising Campaign a Success!

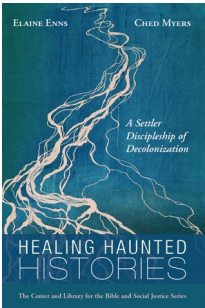
The Malipayon Peace Hub is part of the vision of Dann and Joji Pantoja, long-term International Witness workers in the Mindanao region and founding partners of Peacebuilders Community Inc. (PBCI), their umbrella ministry in the Philippines.



The Peace Hub will provide training in peace and reconciliation for organizations, churches, community groups, indigenous communities, and even military leaders, as well as a home for upgraded processing and farmer training centre for Coffee for Peace (CFP), a new staff house and guest house, and a delivery vehicle.

CFP, an outgrowth of the Pantojas' long-term peacebuilding work, is a for-profit social enterprise that works to elevate incomes for impoverished farmers who were driven up onto the mountains by violence resulting from inter-tribal, religious, and military conflicts. For more details go to <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/44896>

November Course info



There's still time to register "Healing Haunted Histories: Decolonizing Discipleship" a short course with Elaine Enns & Ched Meyers. The course is presented jointly by CMU and MC Sask and will be held at the MCC Centre in Saskatoon November 11-15. Course can be taken for credit or audited. Cost is \$300. Details and registration available at www.mcsask.ca



Anabaptism at 500

Anabaptism at 500! Next year marks the 500th anniversary of the first Anabaptist baptisms. MC Sask is working on some events and we encourage congregations to think of creative ways to mark this significant milestone. Keep watching for more announcements as events get planned and check out resources on Commonword: <https://www.commonword.ca/Browse/10664>

Finance Update Fall 2024

Financial update, November 2024 - giving patterns for this year reflect past years to date. Giving was lower in the first quarter, very poor over summer and starting to pick up again in the fall. We have reserve funds that are available if necessary, but we really don't want to access them.

The dilemma going forward is what to do for future years. Budgets for the last while have been overly optimistic and some adjustments will need to be made. To hear the full report, please come to our town hall meetings coming soon to a neighborhood near you and give us your opinions.

Tim Wiens, Finance Chair