



Peace and joy to you, friend, from Mennonite Church Saskatchewan.

A few weeks ago many of my contacts received a scam email purporting to be from me asking a few thousand dollars worth of gift cards. When I found out, I posted a message to social media assuring folks that the email wasn't from me and that if ever I were to ask for money, I would do so directly.

This is a message *asking you directly* to consider giving to support the ministries we share as Mennonite Church Saskatchewan.

Since I stepped into the role of Interim Executive Minister in January 2022, my delight has been in discovering more deeply the good work we share in together. Sometimes this means rolling up our sleeves on an MDS project, cleaning up dishes after a fundraiser supper, or sewing the binding on a quilt. Other times, it means sharing our money.

The gifts we share support, for instance, the work of International Witness partners and local Christian ministries in Thailand, the Philippines, China, Korea, Ethiopia, Colombia, and elsewhere. I'm overcome with gratitude and awe each time I hear from these partners about their work through Witness Support Network Zoom calls. (If your congregation isn't part of a Witness Support Network, talk with me about how you can get an invite to hear these amazing stories too!).

Together we also support Walking the Path. This group leads us toward reconciliation and more just relationships with the Indigenous Peoples of this place. (Check out the newly-premiered documentary they worked on, *Custodians: A Story of Ancient Echoes*.)

We support the newly-formed Climate Emergency Response Team, helping us mobilize care and concern, advocacy and action for the lives of those most-influenced by climate change. We support organizations working for restorative justice (like Parkland Restorative Justice, The Micah Mission, and CoSA South Saskatchewan), as well as groups resourcing people trying out new ways to be church and follow Jesus together (like the New Leaf Network).

Together we resource kids headed to camp, young adults on their way to college, new pastors transitioning into ministry and seasoned pastors facing post-pandemic realities. We offer support through our prayers and also through our pocketbooks (via one time or scheduled monthly giving).

Thank you. We can only do this work together. As we share our lives and our resources with one another, we become truly the body of the One who gave himself away for the life of the world.

Please visit www.mcsask.ca/giving if you'd like to make a donation today.

With gratitude and joy for you, the body of Christ here in Saskatchewan,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Wallace", with a stylized, flowing script.

Josh Wallace
MC Sask Interim Executive Minister

2022 Special Giving Opportunities

Our shared ministries as Mennonite Church Saskatchewan are supported by your giving. We count on your support to continue our work together.



Support Young Leaders in 2022

This summer 2022 two van-loads of MC Sask Youth are going to **Amplify! at Camp Valaqua in Alberta**. There are various ways to support this youth gathering; see the Amplify! Brochure for more information. ***Give to MC Sask, designated "Amplify."***

MC Sask is sending two young adults to the **Young Leaders Experience** at the MC Canada Gathering in Edmonton. In specially-designed cohort experience, young people age 17-21 will have their faith and leadership skills strengthened. ***Give to MC Sask, designated "YLE."***

MC Sask is sending one participant to the Mennonite World Conference **Global Youth Summit** in Salatiga, Indonesia, July 1-4. This is an incredible opportunity for a young person from MC Sask to share in the global reality of the church and to bring home stories to shape our congregations. ***Give to MC Sask, designated "GYS" to support this trip.***

Shared Ministries as MC Sask

Pastoral Leadership Commission: PLC supports pastors and congregational leaders in ministry. Donations fund learning events, retreats, and a pastoral counselling support fund. ***Give to MC Sask, designated "PLC."***

Walking the Path: Part of Ministries, WtP works with settler and Indigenous partners to "foster and improve good relations" between MC Sask congregations and Indigenous people. ***Give to MC Sask, designated "Walking the Path."***

Climate Emergency Response Team: The newly-formed CERT works to encourage MC Sask congregations in praying in response to climate change, in advocating for public policy changes, and in caring for those most harmed by climate change. ***Give to MC Sask, designated "CERT."***

Shared Ministries as MC Canada

MC Sask passes along 25% of our congregational and individual giving to MC Canada for our shared nationwide ministries. Know that 25% of any undesignated funds you donate will be sent to support our MC Canada programs. However, you can also designate donations to:

International Witness: Congregations in MC Sask have joined Witness Support Networks with partnerships in S. Korea, Thailand, China, and Ethiopia. You can also support ministries in Vietnam, Congo, and Burkina Faso.

Indigenous-Settler Relations: Resourcing and coordinating regional ISR groups as we discern our shared work of solidarity with Indigenous neighbours across Turtle Island.

Climate Action: The newly-established Climate Action Coordinator will resource and nurture collaboration between regional climate working groups.

Thank you for generously sharing in the work of the Mennonite Church, so that God's healing and hope can flow through us to the world! If you are interested in setting up a bequest to support the work of MC Sask into the future, please contact Abundance Canada.

Give online by clicking "Donate Now" at www.mcsask.ca, sending an e-transfer, or sending a cheque to MC Sask, 600 45th St West, Saskatoon, SK S7L 5W9.



Spring 2022 UPDATE

Transitions & Updates

- **Kirsten Hamm-Epp** began a one-year parental leave in February, 2022
- **Josh Wallace** began his role as Interim Executive Minister in January 2022
- **Ryan Siemens** concluded his time as MC Sask Executive Minister January 31, 2022
- **Grace Mennonite Church in Prince Albert** held their final worship service on January 30, 2022
- **Mel Harms** began her role as MC Sask Amplify Youth Trip Coordinator in January 2022
- **Zach Dueck** began his role as Interim Youth Leader in February 2022
- **Carrot River Mennonite Church** celebrated the ordination of **Kevin Koop** to Pastoral Ministry on May 1, 2022.

Camp Study

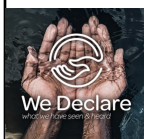
Over the next 9 months, MC Sask Council and Tim Nickel of Fifth Business Consulting will be purposefully listening and reflecting on the role of MC Sask's camping programs within the life and ministry of our family of congregations. Together we put our commitment to camping ministry in our support (volunteer hours, oversight, finances, etc.) of MC Sask's three camps: Camp Elim, Youth Farm Bible Camp, and Shekinah Retreat Centre. Each of these camps hold stories and sacred places for folks in our congregations.

The Camp Study will be first and foremost a listening process, consulting with the three camps and their boards, with supporters and alumni, and with congregations. We will host regional facilitated listening events so that we can hear your stories about the place of camps in your life. We will also be doing due diligence in examining the finances, market, and governance realities for camping programs in Saskatchewan as we listen for the voice of God's Spirit in how we support camping ministry for the next generation. Updates will be shared as they become available.

Save the Date!



MWC Assemblies are reunions of the Anabaptist-Mennonite family worldwide and take place every six years. This year it will be held in Indonesia, July 5-10. You can take part virtually! Details at <https://event.mwc-cmm.org/event/8c9c9576-4a3d-4ab2-a486-fc5024defbf6/summary>



We Declare: What We Have Seen and Heard MC Canada's Gathering 2022 in Edmonton, July 29 to August 1. See <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/gathering2022> for updates and details. In person and virtual registration now available.



Amplify! Is the nationwide Youth Gathering happening in Alberta at Camp Valaqua from July 31 to August 4. Read more at <https://mcsask.ca/event/10659>

Youth Ministry

MegaMenno has had an exciting start to the year. While we were not able to have the winter retreat as planned this year, we still managed to kick off the year with a Winter Fun Day full of snow filled activities out at Shekinah. Following this MegaMenno hosted a ski trip to Table Mountain for a day of downhill excitement, and relaxed card games in the chalet between runs. And with how much these teens enjoy their card games it only made sense to bring back our Youth Games Night for some in person gaming with our MegaMenno family. We had plenty of the classics including Ticket to Ride, Dutch Blitz and Dixit present along a few oddball picks like Magic Maze and Cosmic Encounter. My table was playing Forbidden Desert, desperately working together to try and rebuild our flying pirate ship which crash landed in a magical sandstorm... but alas time was not on our side and as we approached our ship, propellers in hand, it was engulfed by the storm, never to be seen again. And with spring upon us and activities becoming a bit more reliable, we're excited to see that winter retreat we tried to kick off the year with return as a spring event in early June.

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 ! Zach Dueck, Interim Youth Leader

Paul in the Shadow of Empire

Mennonite Church Saskatchewan in conjunction
with Canadian Mennonite University presents

PAUL IN THE SHADOW OF EMPIRE

An Intensive MDiv course
November 7-11, 2022 9am - 4pm
at the MCC Centre, Saskatoon
Available as a credit or audited

An intensive M Div Course led by Sylvia Keesmat

November 7-11 at the MCC Centre, Saskatoon

With a focus primarily on Paul's letter to the Romans, this course will explore how Paul called followers of Jesus to a life of faithfulness at the heart of the Roman empire. This course is available as a credit through CMU or may be audited. Details and registration information is available at www.mcsask.ca

Looking Back—ADS 2022

Folks from across MC Sask gathered on March 12, 2022, both in-person at Youth Farm Bible Camp and online, for our first fully hybrid Annual Delegate Sessions. Together we honored the closure of Grace MC in Prince Albert and the years of Ryan Siemens' work as MC Sask Executive Minister. Guest speaker, Pastor Preston Pouteaux from Chestermere, AB, led us in hearing God's call to live with open blinds and wonder within our neighborhoods and communities. Delegates passed the budget, including a study and listening process of MC Sask's three camps, and commissioned a robust cohort of new leaders and volunteers.

Financial Update

As of April 30, 2022, donations to MC Sask by congregations and individuals are over \$49,500.00 behind budget. We ask you to prayerfully consider helping us do the work of the wider church by making a donation today at www.mcsask.ca/donate.