

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor: Dan Graber Phone: (306) 363-0011

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Pastor's office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

May 3, 2020

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Gathering in the Spirit...

Welcome and Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation & Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Good News...

Scripture: Deuteronomy 8

Offering Reminder and Announcements

Scripture: 1 Kings 19:1-9

Meditation: "Wilderness and Coronavirus"

Responding with our Whole Hearts...

Praise and Prayer

- For Velma Rosenberger who has recently been placed in long-term care.
- For those preparing for Vacation Bible Schools, day camps, and camps this summer. We ask that God blesses them with an abundance of resources, volunteers and children. We don't know if these regular events will take place, but we still pray for their preparations.
- For the church, struggling with faith in the midst of global suffering: God, we believe in your willingness to heal and your power to do so. Help our unbelief.
- For those who have turned to faith in Jesus for the very first time during this pandemic: God, help our new brothers and sisters grow in the grace and knowledge of our Savior.
- For those who don't know Jesus yet but find their hearts stirred by spiritual curiosities and eternal longings: God, in your kindness, lead many to repentance and obedient faith in your Son.
- For first responders and frontline health care workers, especially in epicenters of infection: God, reinforce their ranks and strengthen them with supernatural energy.
- For companies with the ability (and the mandate) to manufacture much-needed protective equipment for our frontline health care workers: God, establish the work of their hands.

- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Holy and gracious God, shepherd of our lives, we come to you with thanksgiving for you are our provider and sustainer. You transform our weary souls with your grace, wisdom and love. You bless us each day with glimpses of resurrection and the promise of new life, in signs of spring, in stories of kindness and perseverance during crisis. Touch our hearts in surprising ways with we have in Christ Jesus.

Listening God, shepherd of the world, we bring you now our prayers for others. Hear them in your tender mercy:

We pray for people who are struggling with illness, loneliness, grief or sadness, thinking especially of those whose lives have been redefined by COVID-19. And we pray for those whose working life has been changed drastically by this pandemic, thinking of health care workers, those in the food supply chain, and all those whose jobs have disappeared. May each life be touched by the power of resurrection and new hope.

We pray for countries and communities where it is not safe for people to live out their faith openly. May all people of faith be granted the freedom to praise without fear

We pray for people in the world who are victims of discrimination and acts of hatred, and remember those unjustly blamed for the outbreak of the pandemic. May your desire for justice be made known and lived out.

We pray for our congregation and all people who make up your Church, forced now to consider how to be faithful in difficult times. May we discover new ways to be your Easter people in the world.

We pray for our families, our friends and for ourselves. May each of us know the power of your compassion and promise.

We ask these things in the name of the Risen Lord who taught us to pray...
The Lord's Prayer

Going out to Serve...

Closing and Benediction

THIS SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber Worship Leader – Floyd Bartel

NEXT SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber

Please note that all events at North Star (worship, meetings, etc.) will be cancelled until further notice. We will continue to send weekly bulletins and information will also be posted on the church website. If you have any questions or comments please call or email the church.

COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:

June 7

Outdoor worship service. Details to follow.

August 17-20

VBS at North Star (depending on COVID-19 restrictions)

NORTH STAR NOTES:

- To see the video of the sermon, please click on the sermon title on the North Star web site (northstarmc.ca)
- Rejoice booklets are in your mailboxes.
- Finance Update January 1/20-April 30/20:
 - Offerings Budget - 28,240.55
 - Expenses - 29,702.54
 - Transfer in from Savings - 5,000.00
 - Donations sent to other organizations - 10,500.00Applications have been made to the government programs to help with wages.
- Please help me put together a Musing by answering these questions: How will life change as we get through Coronavirus? Any predictions or guesses? Any wishes? What are the top three aspects of life you have enjoyed with the quarantine? What are the top three aspects of life you dislike? How will the larger society change but we will not here in Drake? Any other comments or observations? Thanks, Dan.
- From Theatre of the Beat: As a company, we are proud that we are able to employ artists during this time, both financially and creatively. You can be a part of this too. If you have the capacity, please consider donating towards these performers, creatives and the staff at TOTB. Our goal to raise \$2500 by May 5, with all of the funds raised going directly towards artist fees and staff salaries. We are accepting donations starting TODAY and will celebrate our final total during 'A Night with the Cast and Creatives of Selah's Song'. To participate in the event, go to our Facebook page on Tuesday, May 5th at 6:30 PM EST, and you can join in with the cast and creatives over the chat feature while we all watch the special presentation together. Can't make it on the 5th? No problem, the video will be available on all of our social media accounts at a later date.
- Lanigan FoodBank sends a thank you for donations already received. Donations can be dropped off at the Foodbank collection box at the Lanigan Co-op as it is easier for distribution. Cash donations can be made by cheque to North Star and marked FoodBank and Joyce will forward them to the Lanigan and District Foodbank.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Tuesday, May 12

7:00 p.m. – RJC Virtual Open House. Prospective students & families are invited to learn more about RJC from the comfort of their own home!

Experience a virtual school tour, a brief presentation, as well as an opportunity to hear from current students and teachers. The event will be held over Zoom. Please register at admissions@rjc.sk.ca to be sent the Zoom link.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Praying for Each Other: Many thanks from Shekinah Retreat Centre to the volunteers who helped us get ready for the spring flood waters of 2020! We were able to fill water blocks to surround the Chalet, which means it is safe and completely dry! The flood waters reached our newly built cabins, but minimal damage was done. We are grateful that the flood waters were kept at bay and that all of our buildings are relatively dry. Thanks be to God.

CMU Connects: Online Webinars: CMU's Admissions Department is offering information webinars online every Wednesday at 2:00 PM CDT. These webinars are designed particularly for prospective students and their parents. Go to cmu.ca/campuvisit for webinar information.

Due to the ongoing travel restrictions and social distancing directives in place around the world, CMU's Canadian School of Peacebuilding (CSOP) is offering three fully online courses this spring including: Leading in an Age of Polarization, Does Religion Cause Violence? and Reconciling Stories: Indigenous Laws and Lands. Go to csop.cmu.ca for details and to register.