

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

July 12, 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...

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Scripture: Romans 3:21-26; 5:1-10

Meditation: "God's Courtship – God's Dating Game"

Responding with our Whole Hearts...

Praise and Prayers

- Prayer requests:

Jesus, we pray for our camps, conferences, schools, and places who provide resources. They are centres that have been an important part of our congregational life. For many years they have provided vital ministry outreach to all ages. They create "sacred spaces" for retreat, leadership development, education, missionary training, vocational discernment, literature and so much more. For people of all ages these resources help us grow spiritually, socially and physically in a fun-filled and safe place of adventure and challenge. Camps and schools play an important role in faith formation for children and youth. Conference centres and places like Common Word and Menno Media provide vital, life-giving outreach that we need now and for many years to come.

God of peace and justice, you have created all people in your image to serve both Creator and creation in love. We lift up the people of Israel and Palestine on the eve of the threatened annexation in the West Bank. May all recognize that the "earth is the Lord's" (Psalm 24:1), and that the forced acquisition and use of the land by one people at the expense of another is far from your will. Strengthen and give courage to those who speak your truth to the powers of this world. Protect the weak and the dispossessed. May your people shine the light of your love and care for this troubled but "holy" land. And please stop the violence by everyone involved. In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession:
Tender and loving God, you formed the earth to be a place of joy and abundance for all your creatures. For food in all its variety and the people who grow it, transport it, and market it, we give you thanks. These days of pandemic have shown us how much we depend on others. We pray for those who do not have enough food, and for those whose agricultural supply is at risk through extreme weather, uncertain prices and social upheaval. Help us care for the earth and its fruitfulness And for each other in our common need of its fruits.
God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God of all the nations, You gather people together in communities to care for each other and enjoy each other's company and creativity. Yet the pandemic has revealed there are so many vulnerable people, so many places where resources are not shared fairly. Where there is division, bring unity and peace with justice; Where people are distracted, give wisdom to see what is important; Where people are tired and anxious, bring strength and courage.
God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God of compassion, You call us to be communities held together by prayer and love for our neighbours. Where people mourn loss of any kind, provide comfort; Where there is illness and pain, bring healing; Where there is distress or discouragement, transform fear into hope. By your Spirit, equip us to serve one another in Christ's name so that your compassion touches lives with love and mercy.
God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Loving God, we lay before you now our personal concerns in this time of silence:

We offer you these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ.

Going out to Serve...

Closing and Benediction

THIS SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber Worship Leader – Jim Ewert

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:

Monday, August 17-Thursday, August 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)
- We are looking for pictures for our church website. These could include worship, church activities, Sunday School, clubs, etc. Please email any suitable photos to the church as soon as possible.
- We invite you to go to the Common Word Resource Centre, which is the denomination's web site and store, for resources. There you will find all sorts of devotional materials, books - some related to the issues the pandemic is taking us through, and many other materials. You can even buy or borrow some of the materials. Also, you can subscribe to Menno Media to find resources. We urge you to take advantage of these "stores" - especially if you are running out of local things to read.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Praying for each other: Pray for Dann and Joji Pantoja, Witness workers in the Philippines, that they will be wise and make good decisions in the complex economic and political situation where they work. Pray for peace, joy and safety as they relate to many different groups and people.

MCC Connects: Join us in Growing Hope! Sponsor your acre before July 15th and you will receive a package of flax seed to grow at home. By sponsoring an acre for \$300 you are helping to extend the table. Through Grow Hope we are building a bigger table that reaches from Saskatchewan to Syria and Lebanon, to Bangladesh and Nepal, to Ethiopia and Congo and South Sudan. We are demonstrating care and compassion for people we will probably never meet, and we want to let them know that they are not alone – they are welcome at our table. Learn more at www.growhopesk.ca!

CMU Connects: CMU Wednesday Webinar: Curious about what it is like to actually be a student at CMU? Find out from CMU students themselves through a hangout-style zoom event, hosted by Natasha Neustadter Barg, CMU's Student Council President for this coming academic year. Come prepared to engage and ask all your questions. Wednesday, July 15, 7:00–8:00 PM CDT. Register your interest at <https://enrolment.cmu.ca/register/the-hangout>

Fall Hybrid Learning Model at CMU: Find out more about CMU's plans for on-campus, in-person and virtual 'hybrid' learning through a video featuring CMU President, Cheryl Pauls, along with Vice-President Academic, Jonathan Dueck. CMU's learning model for this fall is unique and offers students a great option for university study! Learn more at <https://youtu.be/V34HMD1s6kl>