

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

Phone: 363-2125 Fax: 363-2120 FM station 90.1 Website: northstarmc.ca

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

E-mail: pastor@northstarmc.ca or E-mail: admin@northstarmc.ca

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

August 30, 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: 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:11

Meditation: "Gifts of Grace from the Almighty"

Responding with our Whole Hearts...

Praise and Prayers

- Prayer requests: Let's begin our prayer time with a silent opportunity for each of us to lift up our praises and prayers for people we know: For safety in school openings – for teachers, staff, students and their families. We ask for wisdom and cooperation by all.
- Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession:

O God in whom we live and move and have our being, we come to you in prayer as the summer season draws nearer to its close and we prepare for an autumn filled with many changes:

We give you thanks for the occasions we have enjoyed this summer, savouring the beauty of your creation right outside our doors. Thank you for the chances we've had catch up with family and friends, and whatever opportunities for travel, recreation & restoration have been possible. We recognize how blessed we are to live in Canada and so we are grateful for each moment in which we found rest and relaxation in the summer season.

Today we remember those for whom this summer has been difficult: Those still isolated by the restrictions because of COVID-19; those who go hungry or face violence in forgotten corners of our own community and around the world; those whose businesses are struggling, who have to figure out how to be inviting and safe at the

same time; and those who are uncertain how to engage with friends and neighbours and still be wise and careful in this strange time of pandemic. May each one find courage to face tomorrow in your company.

O God, Jesus walked the road of suffering with so many in pain and grief. We remember those whose lives have faced crises this summer—Through tragic death and unexpected loss, through critical illness or injury, through pain or problems that seem to have no end... Surround them with your comfort and compassion.

O God, Jesus often faced many demands and the pressure from his critics, so we pray for all those who have not found rest this summer: For leaders trying to figure out ways forward to care for their communities when there are no examples to follow; For those whose jobs and responsibilities have changed, and every day presents a new challenge; And we also remember those all who seek work in these uncertain economic times. May they know your strength and assurance day by day.

Jesus, thank you for the many ways you extend your grace to us. Whether it be the kind word of a neighbour, or the help of a stranger, or the wisdom of a relative, or some ritual, or special miracle of creation, may we sense that it comes from you. Help more people around the world receive and recognize your grace of help, love, and protection.

O God, we need the embrace of your presence, each in our own way. Bring healing and peace to our lives and to this world you love. Open our eyes and our hearts so that we may offer healing and peace to those we encounter,

Going out to Serve...

Closing and Benediction

THIS SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber Worship Leader – Jim Ewert

NEXT SUNDAY

Meditation – Dan Graber

Please note North Star Worship Services are tentatively scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 13. Details on how we will proceed will be available soon. 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.

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.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Thursday, September 3

Across the the regional church, congregations are wrestling with what it means to reopen post-pandemic. We've taken different strategies, different timelines, and faced varying responses within our congregations. On Sept. 3, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., I welcome you to join me in a space of sharing our stories, excitement and concern, and discerning how God is working throughout our regional church in this new landscape. This townhall-style meeting will follow a similar pattern to June's "Dreaming Church beyond Pandemic" virtual gathering. It will have space for telling and hearing stories as well as listening for how God may be speaking through them. I'd be delighted to have you join us. Please RSVP to: churchengagement@mcsask.ca and I'll send out a Zoom invitation closer to the date. I'd also be happy to field any questions or requests for more info. – Josh Wallace, Interim Church Engagement Minister

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

MC Sask Connects: Hello from the Shekinah Move-A-Thon Committee! We are holding our Move-A-Thon (formerly known as Bike-A-Thon) fundraiser on September 19th. It will be a virtual event this year and all instructions and a pledge form are on the Shekinah website. Please visit <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/move-a-thon> to REGISTER and take time to view the "inspirational" videos which highlight examples of how you can MOVE!

A special challenge has been issued by Hamilton Fast. For every \$150.00 pledged by the early bird date of September 12th, he will ride one kilometer on his tiny bike, as shown in the "Race Day" video on the Shekinah website. So let the office know by the 12th the amount of your pledge. Hamilton is willing to ride up to 75 kilometres (the distance from Saskatoon to Shekinah) for Shekinah!