

GRACE CHURCH

Bi-Weekly E-Newsletter

From the Lead Team

In 1987 we were attending an outside school event at JR Walkof school where our oldest two attended. All the parents on lawn chairs, watching the children competing, and chatting amongst each other. Talk flows the way it does, and then a middle aged gentleman from our church said, "As a community or society gets wealthier, we build more and higher walls, and not just physical and visible ones". As a young man, that struck me, and I've never forgotten that sentence. By now I'm a senior and know that there is truth in that statement. The Pembina Valley has done a lot of growing since 1987.

I have for years kept a standup piece of paper on top of my desk that reads, "Prosperity may be a greater test of character than poverty". For me it has been good over the years to have that at face level as we worked and prayed to have reward for our efforts.

Both of these statements can be easily taken at face value with a smile and a nod, because they are easily understood. I will choose to take the other side for a moment.

Yes, Southern Manitoba has prospered and reaped the rewards of innovative, hard work. When I sit back and consider what has all been paid for in our communities by personal giving, it is easy to see that a significant percentage of that reward has been given back to the communities. Our medical facilities, personal care facilities, lower income housing, church

facilities, sports facilities, food programs...and the list goes on, is the end result of prayerful giving. I think Southern Manitoba has kept walls in check quite well. This cannot be done without showing love for our neighbour.

One more thought...in the past 5 days, I have chatted with 3 different individuals from our church who have expressed their appreciation for the non judgemental statements and attitudes of other Grace Mennonite Church members.

Well done, and a little pat on the back is OK, especially someone else's.

Isaac Froese

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Coming Events

Sunday, November 14:

9:30 am - Adult Sunday School (Fellowship Hall),
Reg Froese will be sharing about the
ministry of Journey Canada and tell
some of his story. Everyone is welcome.

10:45 am - Central Station Presentation by Bev
Wiebe

Sunday, November 21: Membership and
Covenant Renewal Service

Thursdays @ 7 pm - Prayer Gathering

2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 7pm - Adult Bible Study

Membership & Covenant Renewal

Sunday, November 21st we will be welcoming
new members to our congregation. Also, we will
be renewing our congregational covenant. We
ask that each of you review the covenant
before the service. [Click here for a link to the
covenant on our website](#), or contact the office
for an emailed or printed copy.

Lead Team Nominations

James Fehr, Melody Hamm and Will Wiebe will be
completing their terms on the Lead Team in the
new year. We thank them for their faithful service.
We are accepting nominations and discerning
potential new members for the Lead Team. We will
be following the process as outlined in our Grace
Handbook.

The Lead Team has identified a **Discernment Team**
to guide the selection process.

John Neufeld (jdneuf57@gmail.com)

Barb Dyck (barbdyck@me.com)

Wayne Guenther (weguenther@gmail.com)

Nominating Process:

- The nominating process will run from Nov 28th
until Dec 19th.
- Any church attendee can participate, but
nominees must be members of the Covenant
Community.
- Nominations can be submitted to the
Discernment Team through paper slip, email,
phone call, or face-to-face.
- You are encouraged to use the Prayer
Brochure supplied by the Pastoral staff as you
contemplate and look for God's guidance.

- You are encouraged to connect with the
person that God has placed on your heart.
- When the nominating period is over the
Discernment Team will take some time to
prayerfully consider the nominees, and will
make a recommendation to the Lead Team.
- The Lead Team will review the nominees and
present the prospective Lead Team
members to the participating members of
the Covenant Community for affirmation at
the annual meeting.

A Lead Team Member has a term of 3 years. The
roles and qualifications of the Lead Team are
listed on the back of this form. You are also
encouraged to ask any member of the Lead
Team if you need more information on what they
do.

The prayer guide will be available on our website
and print copies will be available next week, by
request.

Nomination forms will available on November 21.

Partnership Focus

UGM Sandwich Ministry

Sandwich ministry began after Rick Reimer had been visiting with a buddy who was on his way to drop off day old bread at Union Gospel Mission in Winnipeg. The bread would be handed out to those who came to the door in need of food between the meals that the mission offered. Rick got to thinking, how much would it cost to put something between those slices of bread. That was 16 years ago.

Since then this ministry has seen donations from Grace attendees and others in the community. Valley Bakery has also contributed. Many people have volunteered to either help put the sandwiches together or drive them to the city. This has included small groups, Sunday School classes, families and others. The leadership has also changed. Beginning with Rick & Barb Reimer followed by Garry & Patti Suderman and now Bev Hiebert.

Sandwich ministry is a great opportunity to serve together as a small group or as a family. Sandwiches are usually made Saturday but Bev is flexible to do it Friday Night. If you are heading to Winnipeg on a Saturday, maybe you could offer to drive the sandwiches in. If you can help in any way contact Bev. Phone: 204-384-8821 or E-mail: bghiebert@outlook.com



Monthly Matters

The Lead Team met this past Tuesday to discuss current business at hand and spend time in prayer over the Covenant Community of Grace Mennonite Church. As you may see over the next few weeks, there are a few budgeted upgrades happening in the building in regards to the sound / video feeds in the Genesis Room and the Fellowship Hall spaces. The goal of these upgrades is to improve the quality of the service for those attending in these rooms, as well as for those watching online. These changes should mitigate the video/audio lag (audio should match the movement of the mouth of those on the screen) and improve the overall quality of viewing and audio.

Each month we spend time reviewing the current year's financials. We also started some preliminary planning for 2022, and we look forward to finishing that planning in the coming months and sharing that in the new year.

As we continue to pray corporately during this season of prayer, we seek wisdom for vision, and to discern God's calling in regards to staffing and next steps. Stay tuned for updates from the newly formed Discernment Team led by John Neufeld as they start the process of searching for the next Lead Team members.

Finally, we spent time discussing Sunday Mornings and how we can continue to honor provincial government guidelines while keeping a space focused on worship for all who attend. We desire to be a unified body, which means sacrificing our personal preferences for one another - something that's easier said than done. We read in Romans 14 about how we are called to support one another, not quarreling over non-essentials to Christian faith. We are reminded to honor one another's convictions and views in these matters, giving up our own preferences to make sure our brothers and sisters in Christ are honored above ourselves. We urge you to continue in this as we move into the winter season.

Thank you for the continued prayer support, we continue to covet your prayers.

Sunday School



Christmas feels so far away, yet so close. We are excited to announce that after positive feedback last year we are going to be incorporating a digital aspect to our in-person concert. You could choose to sing, dance, recite scripture, read a poem, do a small skit, or so much more. If your children from Age 3 to 18 would like to participate either in person or digitally, please let us know so we can plan out the concert.

If you plan to submit a video recording, please have that submitted either via email to jordan.froese@live.com or via a USB in Jordan Froese's mailbox, no later than December 5th so we can ensure that we have it all ready for the concert on December 19th.

welcome
little one



Congratulations to John & Karyn Krahn on the birth of their first grandson, Olson Reese Wiebe, born to Raena & Jason Wiebe on October 20th. We pray for God's blessing upon Olson and your family.

Prayer and Praise

Pray for our shut-ins and those with on-going health issues:

- Margaret Peters
- Agnes Giesbrecht
- Maria Loewen
- Karl Redekop
- Henry Hiebert
- Marie Klassen
- Katherine Krahn
- Marie Brown
- Anne Enns
- Marilyn Hildebrand

Please pray for Margaret Peters who was admitted to Boundary Trails with congestive heart failure.

Condolences

This past couple of weeks saw several families from our church lose a loved one and we ask that you keep them in your prayers.

We extend our condolences to Jake & Katy Dyck and their family on the passing of her brother, Jake Peters of Winnipeg, on October 24th.

We offer our sympathies to Trevor & Liane Wiebe and their family on the passing of her brother, Mark Hamm, on October 31st.

We offer our condolences to John & Marlene Klassen and their family on the passing of Marlene's brother, Rick Hiebert, of Nov 4th.

May God grant these families peace and comfort during their time of mourning.

Reminder to Pray

We are asking our congregation to continue in prayer for Grace Church as we wait on the Lord to lead us to the person(s) He has chosen to fill our staffing needs.