

“On Mission Together”

Saskatchewan Conference of MB Churches

Director’s Calendar

April - May

Due to provincial restrictions and social distancing practices, the DM’s schedule is fluid at this stage.

Please pray for wisdom and patience.

Check out our

PRAIRE PRAYER SPACE

@ skmb.ca

Join a prayer team seeking to pray for SKMB churches and camps.

terrie@multiply.net

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A Light In The Pandemic

The Wynyard Advance newspaper’s headline read: “Gospel church offers assistance to Wynyard residents”. The article read in part, “Pastor Tim Falk said the church is willing to help out with whatever people need as they self-isolate to prevent the spread of COVID-19....According to Falk, the Gospel Church’s interest in helping out stems from love. “The reason we’re here is because we believe that God loves Wynyard.”

Rick Hawreschuck, pastor of the Woodrow Gospel Chapel, posted this on Facebook: “For those of you who know me, I don't post here very often, but today I wanted to just say this. In light of what the world is going through right now and the measures that are being taken, let me know what I can do for you. If it's simply a phone call or text, I can do that. For anyone who is geographically close to us and you need something picked up or dropped off because you can't go out right now, contact me privately and let's see what we can make happen. For anyone in the community that needs prayer support, I will pray. Please, don't feel that you are alone in anything that is happening right now. Sometimes a calm voice or an ear to listen is needed to get through the next few minutes or hours. I'm not claiming to have a solution for everything, but at the very least I want you all to know that I care. There is a peace in this world that defies all reason and understanding, even in the midst of chaos and calamity; maybe, just for this moment I can help you. Let me know what I can do for you.”

Easter With COVID-19

Kelstern Community Church and Glenbush MB Church held creative Easter Sunday services in light of the COVID-19 physical distancing restrictions. Pastors Dion Grimm and Monty Buhler organized drive-in Easter services for their congregations. Both Grimm and Buhler contacted local health and police authorities before making plans for the celebration. They were given permission to proceed as long as they kept people physically distanced.

The church parking lots were prepared, special stages were brought in and sound systems and FM transmitters were set up. Both celebrations were well received and provided a very unique assembling of the saints to worship the risen Christ.

Supporting SKMB Churches and Camps in Making Disciples



Basic SECURITY tips for ZOOM meetings

Go to: skmb.ca



Join The National Communications Team For SKMB

SKMB and the MB Church of Canada is looking for someone from SK. who has an interest in communications and a decent sense of what's happening in the Saskatchewan MB church community to join a national collaborative communications team. This is a volunteer position. A good writing ability is a definite asset as is an ability to take photos.

For more information call:

Carson D. Samson,
Operations and
Communications Director,
Canadian Conference of
Mennonite Brethren
Churches @
1-204-999-7465.

Hope And Inspiration Abide There

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”

Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV

“No man ever steps in the same river twice,
for it's not the same river and he's never the same man.”

Heraclitus

Greek Philosopher Heraclitus of Ephesus (535 BC) is famous for his saying, “The only thing that is constant is change.” We have seen an aspect of this maxim in Canada as COVID-19 came to our shores. From early morning to late at night we receive news on the ever-changing landscape of the pandemic's grip on our world and our own evolving response to its insidious spread. Within the church, as we seek to address congregational and missional needs, ministry change has been the response; making changes to those changes has become the norm. Christian leaders can quickly become weary, some slowly slipping into burnout territory. This is certainly cause for concern and the need for a renewed call to sabbath well.

Change seems to inherently be a double-edged sword. On the one hand it is exhausting as one tries to adapt and perhaps survive. On the other hand it is life-giving as one sees the new opportunities that change brings. COVID-19 has unleashed a torrent of change, sweeping away so many of our routines and practices. Pastor after pastor has shared with me that gone are the former ways of doing ministry – “We can never go back!” I wonder, do we want to? Perhaps Jesus words about pouring new wine into new wineskins can offer guidance here (Mark 2:21-22).

In my own pondering I'm asking, can the Body of Christ truly rewind or have a do-over? I surmise that there is only going forward into a new normal, a new reality. Rather than grieve or become anxious, I resonate with the words of the Lord to Isaiah. God said forget the former things and see the new thing He was doing. Could Isaiah and Israel see the new thing, the change, God was bringing?

Friends, as you walk into the future, practice genuine self-care as you cope with the day to day changes of life and work. And then, call those near you to open their eyes to see the new things God is doing. Hope and inspiration abide there.

I will give the last word to Heraclitus: “It is in changing that we find purpose.”

Phil Gunther, DM