

Points of Connection

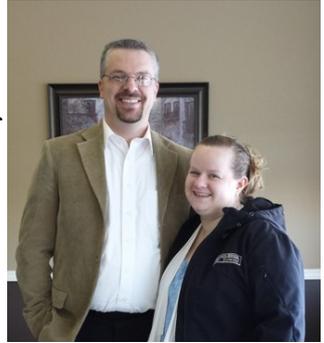


Northwest Mennonite Conference Newsletter

November 2020

Ordination

During the past 2 years Pastor Mark Loewen from Salem Mennonite Church, Tofield has worked through our NWMC ordination process. This process has required the reading of several books with reports on each and reading the Bible through in 2 different translations. In addition he was also required to write 4 essays on faith and one on our Conference. On October 21 the Church Board and the ordination committee met with Mark for a 2 hour



interview on faith and practice. He was recommended for ordination and has been approved by the NWMC Board. The final step will be one of celebration at the church when it will be possible to do so.

Ordination is a public affirmation that the candidate has the call of God into lifetime Gospel ministry. Some church groups hold this with little value and put little effort into examining the candidate for ministry. Others make it a requirement for ministry. We hold it as a significant affirmation of God's call to ministry and require that the candidate demonstrates their ability and the calling of God in the church, to his peers and to the NWMC Board.

Resignation: Pastor Aaron & Kate Kaufman have served the Edson Mennonite Church over the past 9 years. We Thank You for your ministry over those years and pray that you will be blessed and a blessing as you go forward where the Lord leads you.



A Pastoral Dedication is planned for Sunday Dec. 6, 2020 at Bluesky Christian Fellowship



Kyle and Bryanne (formerly Friesen) met in Langley, BC while attending the Canada Institute of Linguistics (related to Wycliffe Bible Translators). They gladly welcomed their first daughter, Susanna Katherine, in May 2020. Kyle was born and raised in Roanoke, Virginia as one of eight kids from a blended family. His family moved to a hobby farm when he

was 12. God saved him through the gospel at a young age and he has felt a strong call to the ministry since elementary school, a call which has led him to leave Virginia to live in Texas, Pennsylvania, BC, and AB, besides visiting many other places. He attended Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and is currently working on a PhD in Ancient Judaism by distance at Trinity College Dublin. Bryanne hails from Grande Prairie, the eldest of four daughters. After going to CBC in Abbotsford, she studied music (majoring in piano) at Ambrose University before becoming interested in Bible translation. She too was privileged to grow up in the church and trust Christ at a young age.

Kyle and Bryanne love the church and are passionate to serve wherever the Lord leads. Thankfully, God has guided them to Bluesky Christian Fellowship, which they are excited to claim as their church family! As Kyle serves there, they covet your prayers for the flock at Bluesky, their family, and those sheep whom God might bring into the fold during their time there

Hope Mennonite Fellowship in North Battleford is planning a Pastoral Dedication in the near future for their new pastor, **Dean & Kathy Covert**. Dean has been part of the congregation and has wide experience from aviation, to staff at Prairie Bible College to farming and much more. Dean says “I am passionate to see individuals learn and grow in their love for the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word. I hold all that I am with open hands to be used by our Heavenly Father as He guides and directs. Hope Mennonite Fellowship is well positioned to be a beacon on a hill in a lost and needy community.” Kathy has served in a variety of Christian ministries with a passionate love for children and youth. Dean and Kathy have one adult daughter.



COVID-19 COMMENTS

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. 2 Cor 1:2-4

During the past few months most of our churches were open with current

Covid-19 restrictions in place. Our pastors and church leaders also continued to use the new ways to connect and create times for worship and prayer for those unable to return. The work that has been done and the number of people beyond our congregations reached has been amazing. Our churches have done great work and ministry during these months, we need to commend all those who worked extra hard to make things happen.

Now restrictions may again be implemented. While we are somewhat better prepared it continues to be important that we set positive examples and do all we can to avoid causing a virus breakout. God has worked in and through the church during this year and He will continue to build His Church. Let us hold fast in faith, God is well aware of our condition and

He is in full control and His will shall be accomplished. Let this encourage us to be in prayer so that many will open their hearts and lives to embrace Jesus Christ and find hope in Him.

Church Relocations

Iglesia Palabra de Vida, Calgary (Word of Life Church) is now meeting in the south end of Calgary at **7640 Fairmount Dr SE**,

Iglesia La Gracia De Dios, Calgary (Grace of God Church), is now meeting at Heritage Christian Academy **2003 McKnight Blvd NE, Calgary.**

Introducing Terry & Roxanne Jackson. My journey to DMC started with a girl, who I am thankful to now call my wife. Back in 2018 I first attended the church as part of dating Roxanne. It became pretty apparent how important her church was in her life during my weekend dating trips from Medicine Hat. I ended up falling in love with her church as I fell



in love with her (more her and then the church to be clear 😊). We got married the Summer of 2018 and I relocated to Brooks at that time. God has blessed me with a wonderful wife and now a welcoming church, who since May of 2020 invited me to pastor alongside pastors Alvin and Nathan. This is the second stage of a pastor development program that started in the spring of 2019. This development program has reawakened in my life God's calling to pastor. I have rediscovered my "voice" and am thrilled to be used by God here to encourage and instruct these brothers and sisters.

I love preaching and being able to walk alongside my church family. I believe that God has had a specific plan and timing for bringing me here and look forward to what He wants to do in and through me.

Thank You for your faithfulness in praying and giving.
The Northwest Mennonite Conference
has been blessed Through You!

Financial Update

NWMC 2020 Budget is \$182,660.00

(Convention removed from Budget)

\$ 128,000 (70% from congregations)

\$ 9,150.00 (5% from individual donations)

\$ 27,400.00 (15% from events & registration)

\$ 3,500.00 (2% from interest)

\$ 14,610.00 (8% shortfall projected)

Income to End of October

\$ 156,522.00 Budgeted from Jan to Oct

\$ 105,705.00 Received from Jan to Oct

\$ 50,817.00 Shortfall to budget

Eye on Health project -

Goal \$200,000

\$ 62,870 (Donations in 2019)

\$10,753 (Donations in 2020)

\$73,623 (Total Donations)

The **Eye on Health** process has now been in process for several months. During this time Todd De Haan has worked with Edson Mennonite Church, Hines Creek Christian Fellowship, and West Zion Mennonite. This fall our focus has been for Todd to work with several pastors one on one. As a Family of churches we value the health of both congregation and pastoral leadership. Our health is important and cannot be taken for granted. In a church this involves a lot of effort and willingness to look at ourselves and check our church health. We appreciate every donation made to help make this available to all our churches.

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