

WANTED

Do you have a copy of the NWMC history book “Faith Life and Witness in the Northwest 1903-2003 “ T.D. Regehr. Would you be willing to donate it to NWMC? We would love to have copies on hand for those interested in exploring our history. I

f you would be willing to donate your copy to NWMC please leave it with your pastor or give it to Pastor Dave Peters

Thank You

for your faithfulness in praying and giving.

**The Northwest Mennonite Conference
has been blessed Through You!**

Financial Update

NWMC 2022 Budget is \$220,000.00

(Ladies Retreat removed from Budget)

- \$138,600 (63% from congregation support)
- \$ 22,000 (10% from individual donations)
- \$ 35,200 (16% from events and registration)
- \$ 2,200 (1% from interest)
- \$ 22,000 (10% shortfall projected)

Income to End of September

- \$164,999 Budgeted from Jan to Sept
- \$120,235 Received from Jan to Sept
- \$ 44,764 Shortfall to budget

Conference Office

Administrator—Carol Gelleny
Box 1316
Didsbury, Alberta T0M 0W0
Phone: (403) 337-3283
Email: info@nwmc.ca

Conference Minister Office

Rev. David & Joanne Peters
715 Woodside Dr. NW
Airdrie, Alberta T4B 2H1
Ph. 587-225-1072
Email: davipete@telus.net

Points of Connection

Northwest Mennonite Conference Newsletter



Bethany Christian Church, Smith AB celebrated 75 years of God's faithfulness Sept 3-4 2022. The church was filled with people from the community and from past and current attendees. On display tables were photo albums and displayed on the walls were high-

lights from each of the decades. A table of refreshments was available to enjoy while visiting. In the evening Pastor Damon Ramer welcomed everyone and led the service. Memories from the beginnings when the Willis Yoder family came and began ministering in the community and then progressed through the years. Memories were shared by Ed Yoder on behalf of Jim Earl, the oldest still living founding member, followed by Lyle Roth who married the pastor's daughter, Joyce. Together Lyle & Joyce served in the church until her death in 2019, after which Lyle moved to Toftfield. Colin Weber shared his memories of the value the church placed on youth and children, Colin served NWMC as Conference Youth pastor. Ed Yoder shared memories of returning to



the farm to enable his father to devote time to the ministry. Sylvia Johnston told of her journey and was thanked for all the hard work she put into organising this celebration. Many stories were told of the sacrifice made by individuals who were passionate about

establishing and growing the church.

On Sunday Morning each of the worship team leaders introduced a song meaningful to them. Pastor Damon invited us to enjoy the worship service as they currently do things.

Continued next page

Bethany Church 75th continued...

Brenda DeGrace shared of her time in Bethany. Arnie Weber, shared from his years of experience as their pastor (1987-2000). Conference Minister, Dave Peters encouraged the church to go forward in faithful service, mindful of the great things God had done for them in the past and with faith in God for building the church in the future. The service ended with a special presentation from Bluesky Christian Fellowship. These 2 congregations have held a close connection through the years. In 1948 Paul & Doris Burkholder and family went from Smith and started the Bluesky church. Tim Burkholder came for the celebration. Tim was their oldest and also the first child born into the Bethany church family. The day of celebration came to a conclusion with a great meal. While many worked on making this a wonderful day, Sylvia Johnson lead the team with diligent commitment. With praise to God for their past faithfulness and with great hope in God for the future.



Welcome

Lloyd & Eileen Peters; West Zion Mennonite Church.

Lloyd was raised in a Christian home with 8 siblings. Church was a big part of family life, from summer camps, youth groups and evangelistic campaigns. Lloyd accepted Christ as his Saviour when he was at Bible camp at the age of 9. Each year camp brought about a renewal of faith and then baptism at 15. Having a sense of a call to ministry he went to Millar College, graduated then went on to get his BRE degree from Providence, followed by an MA in Counselling. He married Eileen in '72 and she too graduated in counselling with additional classes from various schools and universities. The opportunities to serve the Lord were humbling and a validation of my earlier call to ministry. From serving in a Bible College, short term missions and then serving in 4 churches God has always proven faithful. We have been blessed with two children, 5 grandchildren. Lloyd Peters.



Celebration of Ordination

for Kyle Young in Bluesky Christian Fellowship, September 18, 2022.

The church invited Kyle & Bryanne Young to serve them in fall of 2020. Kyle has served the congregation while he continued to work through his studies and is currently a PHD candidate. At the same time he has worked through the NWMC Ordination process and his calling to Gospel Ministry has been affirmed. This process involved a lot of reading, writing of essays ending with a lengthy interview by the ordaining committee. The Bluesky Leadership team: Stan Burkholder, Melford & Verla Haas and Esther Kaufman; Dr. Mark Giacobbe, a friend and mentor of Kyle; and NWMC Pastors Alvin Penner, Mark Loewen, Damon Ramer and Dave Peters.



After a wonderful potluck meal the congregation and guests gathered to celebrate, Stan Burkholder lead the service and with an ordination

prayer, Bryanne Young lead the singing from the piano, NWMC Moderator, Pastor Alvin Penner shared the message, Pastor Damon Ramer read the Scripture and lead with an ordination prayer, Pastor Mark Loewen shared greetings for NWMC and lead in prayer for the church and its leadership. Local Pastor, Gerry Wengren brought



greetings on behalf of the local ministerial, Pastor Dave presided over the act of ordination.

Pastor Kyle shared his response and closed the service by singing the Levitical Blessing in Hebrew. It was a day of joyful celebration.



Saskatchewan Fraternity

Over the past 2 years we have worked on creating a tool for us to be able to register our pastors to officiate at weddings. We are thankful for the partnership of Pleasant Hill Church and the many people who signed the necessary petition. We are now able to register their, pastors, Keith Pankratz and David Doerksen, and our pastors, Dean Covert and Abel Zabaleta. Praise God !!