

## **Coaldale Mennonite Church**

2316 – 17 St., Coaldale, Alberta

***“Rooted in Jesus, Growing in Grace, Connected in  
Community, Branching into the World”***

**Keeping in Touch – June 18, 2021**



- ✓ **The Covid restrictions have been adjusted. We are now allowed one-third of our fire code capacity which is 73 people. Physical distancing between households is required so we may not be able to accommodate all 73 but we will do our best. Masks and registration are still mandatory. Please register with the church office by Thursday.**

**Please do not attend in person if you are experiencing the most common symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat).**

- ✓ **The Live Stream of the Sunday Service will begin at 11am. You will be able to find the Live Stream on **You Tube** and searching **Coaldale Mennonite Church**.**
- ✓ **Sharing and Announcements via Zoom** will be at 10:30am on Sunday. Zoom invite is below:

Topic: Sharing & Announcements

Time: Jun 20, 2021 10:30 AM Edmonton

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81562270243?pwd=cWNhSXI1bGVhUWJlV1d1WjlUS2hMdz09>

**Meeting ID: 815 6227 0243**

**Passcode: 731446**

- ✓ **If you are attending Sunday morning service and would like to participate in the Zoom Sharing & Announcements, you may join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30am.**
- ✓ **Men's Prayer time – Men's Prayer time will be put on hold until Covid restrictions have been lifted.**
- ✓ **Please Note:** If you are at church outside of office and church service hours, please make sure that the doors are latched shut when you leave. The metal doors expand in the summer heat and do not shut completely. Please pull on the door handles to make sure they are latched closed. Thank you.
- ✓ **MCC Alberta AGM 2021** is being held on Saturday, June 26 at 9:00 am via Zoom. If you wish attend, the link to register is found below:

**Please register by June 22 at [mccab.ca/2021-agm](http://mccab.ca/2021-agm).**

- ✓ **Help Wanted:** If you have an interest in sound or video, this is for you. The Worship Committee is looking for additional people to run the sound and/or the livestream systems. Training is provided. If you are curious about these positions, contact a Worship Committee member (Kelsey, Andrew, Joel, Gary, or Jodi) or talk to one of the sound or livestream personnel.
- ✓ **Food Grains Project Update:** The Coaldale-Lethbridge Food Grains project is up and growing. There are two fields this year. A small 30-acre field is located east of the new RCMP building on the east side of Coaldale. The second field (160 acres) is owned by Dr. Phil Klassen and located southeast of Coaldale. The crop is growing well. A harvest BBQ is yet to be determined. Our project board is led by Ben Klassen, Ethan Klassen, Deb Chapman, and Herb Wall. If you would like to support the Food Grains Project, you may donate through the church or directly to the project via Herb Wall.

- ✓ **Congratulations and best wishes go out to Trina Friesen and Dennis Reimer who are getting married on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. May God bless you and your family as you begin this journey together.**



- ✓ **Amanda will be on vacation from June 25<sup>th</sup> – July 5<sup>th</sup>.**
- ✓ **Thank you to all of you** for all the cards and phone calls we have received from my mom's passing. Thank you also for all your prayers. Trudy & John Penner
- ✓ **Givings for June 13, 2021:** \$2840.00    Budget \$2240.00    Food Grains \$250.00  
MCC \$350.00
  - **E-transfer** is available for your donations to the church email:  
[cmchurch@telusplanet.net](mailto:cmchurch@telusplanet.net)

# GO! 100



## GO!100 is Returning!

No Relief Sale in 2021 means **you are once again invited to GO!100**. Last year you walked, sewed, and more to raise almost \$245,000 to help MCC provide aid for vulnerable people. We can do it again!

Visit [mccab.ca/go-100](https://mccab.ca/go-100) for information and to sign up and get GO!ing for relief, development, and peace! For questions, please contact Donita at [donitawiebeneufeld@mccab.ca](mailto:donitawiebeneufeld@mccab.ca).

### Leading us in Worship this Sunday:

Worship Leader: Nick Dyck                      Music: Kelsey Janzen

Speaker: Gary Giesbrecht

Scripture Readings: Nehemiah 8:9-11; Matthew 13:44-46; John 15:11-15; James 1:1-11

Sermon: "The Dance of Joy"

Sound: Bill Chapman                      Media: Jared Reed

Usher Team: Team 1





## PRAYER FOCUS



### Pray for:

- † **All our fathers on this Father's Day.**
- † **Peter Janzen** who is recovering at home from Covid.
- † **David Giesbrecht** who is recuperating at home.
- † **All our students and staff as they complete another school year.**
- † **Our seniors at the various lodges and those in their homes.**
- † **Rehoboth Christian Ministries**
- † **God's peace in our chaotic world**

(If you would like to have a prayer request in this weekly update, please contact Jodi at [cmchurch@telusplanet.net](mailto:cmchurch@telusplanet.net) or 403-345-3363.)

### Note from Pastor Gary

#### The Dance of Joy!

What a title for Father's Day. You might ask "how is this a Father's Day theme?" On top of that I cannot dance, it was prohibited by my parents, and I never learned how. So why the theme "the Dance of Joy?" One of the things that I missed from my dad was constant reminder, from a place of joy, "you are my son, and I am proud of you." This would have built joy into my life and could have built a stronger connection with my dad. The times I did feel a deep sense of joy was when my dad would tell stories. Telling the stories was a dance of joy. Whenever he had an audience, his eyes would light up as he told his stories. We would relax sit back and laugh as he would recall the risk or the adverse conditions he had to go through and a sense of accomplishment when he came through those experiences. Because he had an audience this was a communal experience, and we learned many lessons about life. The "dance" in most of his stories was the movement from adversity or risk to celebrating the joy of having gone through these experiences.

The apple does not fall far from the tree. I also find myself telling stories of "dancing" through the adversity or risk and coming through the experience. As I tell these stories usually there is laughter and sometimes one of my children will say "dad we have heard that before." It is still worth repeating.

This past week, a news clip appeared at the end of the “National,” showing a star tennis player who won the tournament, and on his way out, gave his racket to a young boy about 10 years old. This young boy did a dance for joy, and this joy was spread to those around him and to the TV audience.

The dance of joy appears at certain significant experiences. These experiences included our engagement, wedding, being present at the birth of our children and holding our grandchildren when they were a few hours old. On top of that, joy was experienced in little things when our children learned to walk, ride bicycles and the list could on and on. Sometimes joy must be learned in letting go. Our daughter who was in grade seven at the time, had invited her friends for a birthday party and part of the party was watching a movie in the West Edmonton Mall cheap theatre. As they were getting ready to go into the theatre she said to me, “Bye dad see you when the show is finished.” I was wondering how she would make it through without me “protecting” her etc. I had to learn the joy of letting her grow up and not need me in the same way.

Years ago, (1968) the “Medical Mission Sisters” introduced a song “Joy is like the Rain.” This song has a dance quality to it, and please notice the contrasts:

I saw rain drops on my window, joy is like the rain  
Laughter runs across my pane, slips away and comes again  
Joy is like the rain

I saw clouds upon a mountain, joy is like a cloud  
Sometimes silver, sometimes gray, always sun not far away  
Joy is like a cloud

I saw Christ in wind and thunder, joy is tried by storm  
Christ asleep within my boat, whipped by wind, yet still afloat  
Joy is tried by storm

I saw rain drops on a river, Joy is like the rain  
Bit by bit the river grows, till all at once it overflows  
Joy is like the rain

<https://genius.com/Medical-mission-sisters-joy-is-like-the-rain-lyrics>

The dance of joy can be found in many places in the Bible, here are some examples.

- In Psalm 30:5 (NIV), the Psalmist writes “For his anger lasts only for a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may last for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.”
  - Notice the two parallels that help to emphasize joy or rejoicing. God’s dance of anger is short whereas his favor last for lifetime, weeping is short and last in the darkness of night, whereas joy comes in the dawning of a new day. Just as God’s favor is positive and endures, so joy is positive and endures in the “light” of day.
  - The dance is from weeping to experiencing joy.
- In Matthew 13:44-46, Jesus tells two very short parables regarding the kingdom of God. Both these parables are parallel to each other.
  - The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hid in a field and searching for an amazing pearl.

- The key word is joy. “In joy” the person sold everything and bought the field and the amazing pearl.
- In this case, the dance is from the temporal to the eternal. Joy was a change in values from this world’s values to “kingdom” values.
- Most of time, living in the kingdom is seen as following a set of rules, usually our made-up rules. The joy of living in the kingdom of God is what those around us pick up on a daily basis.
- In John 15:11-15, the dance of joy is moving from self-centeredness to centering ourselves in the joy of Christ. Vs. 11 (Message) “I’ve told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature.”
  - Without the Joy of Christ – how can we love one another as Christ has loved us?
  - Without the Joy of Christ – how can we put our lives on the line for our brothers and sisters.
  - Without the Joy of Christ – how can we embrace the suffering of Christ for our forgiveness of sin and find meaning in our own suffering as we follow Christ.
- In James 1:1-4, the dance of joy is embracing our struggles and trials not as deterrents, rabbit trails, or detours but seeing them as a way of maturing us to a deeper faith and learning to trust God in a way we had not before.
  - This is counter intuitive in our world. We tend to run from difficulties and struggles, finding the fastest way to get out of them. In the process we become weak and limit our ability to develop a mature faith.
  - Story of the silk moth cocoon. In India, my dad brought home two silk moth cocoons. He put them out for all of us to see. One day, one of the cocoons showed some movement so he cut the end of the cocoon so the moth could get out without a struggle. The moth did come out and spread its beautiful wings (10-inch wings) but it could not fly. The other cocoon showed the same movement, and it was hard to watch it struggle. It took a considerable amount of time, but when it came out the moth spread its beautiful wings and had the strength to fly.

The “dance of joy” includes more than what I have mentioned here, and in that it is incomplete. From above the references the dance joy includes from something – to joy. Summarizing this movement as follows: “from Weeping to Joy in morning,” “from temporal values to eternal values,” “from self-centeredness to centering joy in Christ,” “from embracing difficulties to experiencing joy in the maturing of our faith.”

I trust that all of us might experience the dance of joy today and in the days to come.

Gary Giesbrecht  
Pastor



#### **To Contact the Church**

Admin Assistant: Jodi Reed  
 Office Hours: 9am – 12noon, Monday – Friday  
 Church Office: **403-345-3363 & 403-345-5255**  
 Lead Pastor, Gary Giesbrecht: **403-795-0350**  
 Pastor to Seniors, Lil Thompson: **403-331-0297**  
 Lay Pastor, Eric Giesbrecht: **403-345-3946**