

Coaldale Mennonite Church

2316 – 17 St., Coaldale, Alberta


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

Keeping in Touch – December 24, 2021



Christmas Eve/Christmas Day

- ✓ **At CMC, masks are mandatory while in church. We will continue to physically distance in the sanctuary. Every other bench will be available for seating. We are allowed one-third seating capacity in the sanctuary (75 people) and 25 in the balcony. Hand sanitizing stations will remain throughout the church. Registration ahead of time is no longer required.**
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).
- ✓ **Our Sunday Worship Services (in-person and Live Stream) will begin at 10:45am. You will be able to find the Live Stream on **You Tube** and searching **Coaldale Mennonite Church**.**
- ✓ **Christmas Season services:**
 - Friday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Service at 7pm**
 - Saturday, December 25th – Christmas Day Service at 10:30am**
 - Sunday, December 26th – Sunday Service with Communion at 10:45am**The Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be livestreamed as well as in person. Please remember Covid protocols only allow for one-third capacity in the sanctuary and balcony.

- ✓ **Communion** – We will be having communion this **Sunday, December 26th** during the morning service. If you are joining us via the Live Stream, please have the communion elements ready with you at home. Please prepare your hearts and minds to share the Lord's Supper.
- ✓  **It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and...** Time for the 2021 annual reports. Please get your reports to Jodi by **Wednesday, January 5th, 2022**.
- ✓ **The church office will be closed Monday, December 27th, Tuesday, December 28th and Monday, January 3rd.**
- ✓ **Gary will be out of the office the week of December 27th – 31st.**
- ✓ **Prayer Week Services** – January 17th, 19th, & 21st, 2022 via Zoom. More details to follow.
- ✓ **Annual Congregational Meeting** – Friday, January 28th, 2022, at 7pm in person and via Zoom.
- ✓ **Givings for December 19, 2021:** \$3710.00 Budget: \$3660.00
Christmas Hampers: \$50.00
 - There is an **offering basket** on the back table in foyer for your tithes.
 - **E-transfer** is available for your donations to the church email:
cmchurch@telusplanet.net
 - **Financial Update as of December 19, 2021**

Total Budgeted for 2021:	\$241,924.00
Donations Received to Date:	<u>\$217,022.37</u>
Amount needed to meet Budget	\$ 24,901.63
- ✓ **There was a donation made on the debit machine on Sunday, Dec. 12 without a name or tithe number. If this was yours, please let Jodi know.**
- ✓ **Any end of the year donations need to be into the church office by Thursday, December 30th.**

Leading us in Worship this Sunday:

Worship Leader: Gary Giesbrecht Music: Peter Janzen

Speaker: Eric Giesbrecht

Scripture: I Samuel 1:21-28; Luke 2:22-40

Sermon: 'Five Witnesses at the Temple'

Sound: Stacey Marriott Media: Nic Groenheide

Usher Team: Team 4

Note from Council/Ministerial

On June 11, 2020, an ADHOC transition team formed with the hope of navigating Coaldale Mennonite Church through the murky waters of worship during a global pandemic. What seemed to be a daunting task, became a new way to reach far more people than we could have ever imagined. Our church community, through live stream and Zoom, stayed connected. We supported one another and worshipped together meaningfully even when we were unable to leave our homes. What the team and the CMC community did was find a new direction with a new compass.

Today, almost two years later, we want to find a new direction as we put COVID behind us. Our direction is always upward, focusing on strengthening our relationship with God. In turn we are driven outward, to each other and to people in our community. We are looking for a new team to prayerfully guide us in the new outward direction we want to take. A team who will come together and share ideas and plans for how we can move forward stronger, more united in Christ than we have ever been. If you feel like you would like to be part of this dynamic team, please talk with someone on council, ministerial, or call Jodi at the office. We would love for this team to begin meeting as early as January 2022.



PRAYER FOCUS



Pray for:

- † **Danielle Unser** who is having surgery on Wednesday, Dec. 22nd to address her Crohn's. She will be in the hospital for a week and then at home to recover.
- † **David Giesbrecht** who is recovering in the hospital with ongoing health concerns.
- † **Our seniors at the various lodges and those in their homes.**
- † **Rehoboth Christian Ministries**
- † **Our hospitals and health care workers**
- † **Students and staff at Kate Andrews High School.**
- † **Our families in our congregation as we prepare for Christmas, whether we are gathering with family and travelling.**

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

Participants next Sunday, January 2, 2022

Worship leader: Eric Giesbrecht

Sound: Bill Chapman

Music: Jodi Reed

Speaker: Henry Janzen

Media: Jared Reed

Usher Team: 1

Due to scent sensitivities, please help us make our church a scent-free environment and refrain from wearing cologne and perfume.



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**