

Experience God's Presence

We gather in smaller groups during the week at various times and places, to care for one another and study the Bible together. On Sunday, we come together as a large congregation to prayerfully express our worship to God and enjoy the inspiration of relevant and practical learning from the Bible. Between those smaller gatherings and larger celebrations, we represent God among the people with whom we live in our homes and neighborhoods, and with whom we work.

Our prayer is that you will experience God's presence and the care of God's people as we spend this hour together and that the decisions you make today will help you live as an honorable member of the family of God. If you would like more information on how to get involved with a Small Group, feel free to speak to an usher.

To Become a Christian

- Believe that Jesus, God's son, died for your sins and rose again from the dead.
- Accept God's forgiveness for, and turn away from your sins.
- By faith, make Jesus Christ the Saviour and Lord of your life.
- Publicly declare your commitment to Christ.

You can accept him by faith through praying like this:

"Oh God, I acknowledge that I have sinned against You. I am sorry for my sins and I am willing to turn away from them. I now receive Jesus Christ as my Saviour, and accept Him as Lord of my life. From this moment on, I will live for Him. In Jesus' name. Amen."

If you have prayed this prayer, thereby receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, then you have become a follower of Jesus.

It is important that when you receive Christ's love and forgiveness you tell someone about it just as soon as possible. Tell a pastor and one or two close friends; it will help seal this act of faith in your mind and heart.



A place where God and people meet

Sunday Worship Services
9:45am
Sunday School
11:15am

231 Kitson St.,
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0Z4
Phone: 233-8435
e-mail: office@crossroadsmb.ca
Website: www.crossroadsmb.ca

Pastor couple:
Marvin & Edith Dyck
Pastor's Office: 170 Marion St.
Phone: 253-9685
e-mail: pastor@crossroadsmb.ca
Monday to Thursday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Apprentice:
Stefan Klassen
Office: 1310 Taylor Ave.
Phone: 204-669-6575 ext. 224
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email: stefan.a.k.klassen@gmail.com



Welcome to Crossroads MB Church!

Sunday—November 3, 2019

*For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"
made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge
of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6*

Songs of Praise & Worship

Worship Team

Pastoral Prayer

Marvin Dyck

Offering

Children's Feature

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 4

Message

"Clay Jars"

Marvin Dyck

Communion

The Apostles' Creed

The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Prayer

Today at Crossroads

Prayer in the church office beside the sanctuary at 9:15am this morning.
All are welcome.

Sunday School classes for ages 2 through adult begin at 11:15am.

Adult classes:

1. Networking class in the basement
2. Regular class in the church office



Ladies of Crossroads! You are invited to a baby shower today
at 12 noon in the sanctuary following Sunday School!

**Crossroads records and posts its services to a secure site
to allow our church family, who are unable to attend, to join in worship**

Crossroads strives to maintain a scent-reduced environment

Crossroads Information

Thursday, November 7—Quilting for MCC group from 10:00am til 12 noon in the church basement. Come cut squares, iron, sew, or visit!

Next Sunday, November 10—You are welcome to Crossroads at 9:45am for our worship service followed by Sunday School classes for ages 2 through adult at 11:15am.

Thursday, November 21—Vision Board Meeting at the church at 7:30pm.

Wednesday, November 27—Membership Meeting at Crossroads at 7:30pm. Mark your calendars now!

The new Crossroads Contact Directory will be printed next week. There is a *Draft* of the updated directory on the **counter in the foyer**. If you would like to be included in the directory or get a mailbox, or have changes to make to it, **please take a look and write in the additions/changes on the draft copy today.**

Union Gospel Mission's "Family Life Center" sees many kids but has consistent interaction with around 15 kids ages 5-12 (mostly 8-9) yrs old. As a part of our **Sunday school offering project we would like to help UGM give these kids a gift at Christmas time. As such we will collect unwrapped toys at the Church until Dec. 15th.**

This is the last Sunday to make donations to the Thanksgiving Project—Living Word Temple!

Would you like to make the coffee/tea on Sunday mornings for one month this winter? Contact Karis!

Christmas Eve: What gift would you like to give to Jesus? Our annual "Gifts for Jesus" Christmas Eve service will take place on Monday, Dec. 24 at 6:30pm at Crossroads. Would you like to share a song? Poem? Story? Drama? Please call Marvin or email him with the gift you want to give to Jesus in our worship time this Christmas Eve.

SBC and Candlewick Productions celebrate 20 Years of partnership with the musical production of Disney's **Beauty and the Beast, November 8-10, at Steinbach Bible College.** "Be our Guest" and visit SBCollege.ca events to purchase tickets!

Christmas at CMU is happening this month on **Saturday, Nov. 30!** Create your own concert with family, friends, and neighbours while enjoying music, festive decor, cookies, and hot apple cider. Programs at 2:00 and 7:00 PM. North Side, CMU Campus| 500 Shaftesbury Blvd. See cmu.ca/christmas.

Job Opportunities at MCC Canada:

The Donor Relations Database Coordinator reports to the Manager of Donor Relations and provides support to the provincial Donor Perfect Online (DPO) users. In collaboration with the MCC U.S. Database Coordinator, the position also manages and reports on all donor data across the MCC Canada system. To apply: Please upload one document with your cover letter and resume at www.mcccanda.ca

MCC is looking for a **Thrift Development Manager** to help oversee national brand marketing, online business development, volunteers and more! To apply: Please Upload one document with your cover letter and resume at www.mcccanada.ca

In the face of our world's climate crisis, embark on a conversation about what the church can hope for, work for, and deal with, whatever the future may bring. Plan to attend a public lecture by the Rev'd Dr. **David Widicombe** (Rector, St. Margaret's Anglican Church) entitled "**And His Hands Prepared the Dry Land: A political theology of climate change**". **Gordon Zerbe**, CMU Professor of New Testament, will offer a response and **Steve Bell** will moderate and sing as part of the evening. Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7:00 PM, **Marpeck Commons**. See cmu.ca/events.

Mennonites and Hutterites at a Crossroad 1914-1926: Mennonite Heritage Archives hosts a public lecture featuring John Friesen and Ian Kleinsasser who will present on the Mennonite and Hutterite experiences post WWI. Nov. 7, 7:00–9:00 PM, CMU Conference Room at 600 Shaftesbury Blvd. See cmu.ca/events.

Message Outline

Clay Jars 2 Corinthians 4

And all of us have had that veil removed so that we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him and reflect his glory even more. 2 Corinthians 3:18, *New Living Translation 1996*

A. Here's some awesomely good news:

- God has made a new covenant (long-term agreement) with humans through Jesus' death and resurrection for us and the work of the Holy Spirit, changing us from inside 3:4-11
 - as we look at Jesus, the Holy Spirit changes us to become more like Him, and we reflect Jesus to others 3:17-18
 - we're a fragrance of Jesus to those around us 2:14-16 Shillington 90
- Now wherever we go he uses us to tell others about the Lord and to spread the Good News like a sweet perfume. 2:14, *New Living Translation 1996*

1. Therefore, we don't get discouraged 4:1 (see 1:3-11)

"On the human side, he has every reason to withdraw. His afflictions are reason enough. His humiliation in receiving the thirty-nine lashes five times could easily make him lose heart in the ministry. Vilification by opponents is hard to take. But he does not lose heart. Paul knows God's mercy and sees God's plan for the world unfolding in the Gentile mission in which he is engaged. For this reason he does not lose heart." Shillington 90.

2. Instead, we're committed to the best methods of communication:

...we have renounced secret and shameful ways, we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. 4:2

a) we stop "all secret and shameful deeds" 4:2, *Good News*

"I have said farewell for ever to everything for which a good man would blush." *Pulpit Commentary: 2 Corinthians* Eerdmans 1962, 89

b) we don't use deception

Then Jesus said....: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. Luke 9:23-24

"The same word...is found in 11:3 to describe the manner in which Satan beguiled Eve." Tasker 69

c) we don't distort the word of God

"He does not, for example, dilute [the Word of God's] severity to make himself popular with his hearers; nor does he confound it with human philosophies, but proclaims it for what in fact it is, *the* (revealed) *truth*. And the preacher who presents such truth directly and faithfully commends it *to every man's conscience*, for...it is the plain unadulterated gospel of the grace of God revealed supremely in the death and

resurrection of Christ that alone strikes home to his *conscience*. 'Repent and believe the gospel' must ever be the burden of one who is preaching *in the sight of God*." Tasker 69-70

d) There are enough communication problems already:

i) The stakes are very high: people who don't know Jesus are perishing

If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. 4:3-4, *New Living*

"The idea is not extinction but ruin, loss, not of being, but of well-being. This is clear from its use, as, e.g., of the marring of wine skins, Luke 5:37; of lost sheep, i.e., loss to the shepherd, metaphorical of spiritual destitution, Luke 15:4, 6, etc. the lost son, 15:24; of the perishing of food, John 6:27; of gold, 1 Peter. 1:7. So of persons, Matt. 2:13, 'destroy;' 8:25, 'perish;'; of the loss of well-being in the case of the unsaved hereafter, Matt. 10:28;...2Cor. 2:15, 'are perishing;' 4:3...." *Destroy Vine, Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words* Zondervan 1952, Vol. 1, p. 302

ii) sin has a deadly blinding, veiling effect on their minds 4:3-4

"Paul is well aware of demonic power that pervades the present age (1 Cor. 2:6; 5:5; 8:5; 10:20...)....Nor is Paul dualistic...For Paul, there is one Creator-Redeemer God working out the plan of the ages. In the meantime, the present age falls under the spell of the evil one, as it has since the sin of the first human parents." Shillington *Believers Church Bible Commentary: 2 Corinthians* Herald, 1997, 92

e) When we focus on Jesus as Lord, the Creator God shines through! 4:5-6

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

"Paul likens the light of the gospel to the light of creation. He notes that the same God who said, 'Let there be light' (Gen. 1:3) has also shone 'in our hearts' the light of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 4:6). In other words, the God of creation is also the God of new creation." Quast, *Reading the Corinthians Correspondence* Paulist 1994, 122

- even though we're flawed! 4:7

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 4:7

"we have this treasure: the 'light of the knowledge of the glory of God' displayed in the gospel.

"in earthen vessels...: the apostles themselves. They were expendable; but the **treasure** was of indestructible worth...The pottery lamps...could be bought for a copper or two in the Corinthian market-place...it did not matter how cheap or fragile they were so long as they showed the light. The worthlessness of the **vessels** is evidence that **the transcendent power** which attends the preaching of the gospel, the change which it effects in human lives, is God's and not the apostles'." Bruce, *The New Century Bible Commentary: 1&2 Corinthians* Eerdmans 1996, 197.

Message outline continued next page....

Message Outline Continued

3. Somehow, God works through our suffering as we follow Jesus

a) it's a form of death, following Jesus' pattern – life through death 8-12

“Paul believes that his preaching has to conform to his life, and his life to his preaching. If the saving death of Jesus is central to his preaching (1 Cor. 1:18ff), then the experience of such a death has to be visible in the person of the preacher. As he says elsewhere, he has to conform to Jesus' death (Phil. 3:10). Not that death, even death in mission, is an end in itself. Like the death of Jesus, Paul's death lets the resurrection life of God come through. ‘The destruction of the earthenware vessel (verse 7) reveals more clearly the treasure it contains’ (Barrett, 1973, 140).” Shillington 100-101.

“...the paradox of the Christian life surfaces again: new life in Christ germinates in the soil of suffering (cf. 2 Cor. 1:3-11; 4:11).” Quast 122

b) our suffering will end with resurrection with Jesus v. 13-14

c) results in God's grace breaking into the lives of more and more people, bringing them life v. 15

“He bore everything in the conviction that through his sufferings and trials others were being led into the light and love of God...Paul could go through what he did because he knew that it was not for nothing; he knew that it was to bring others to Christ.” Barclay, *Daily Study Bible: The Letters to the Corinthians, Revised Edition* Westminster, 1975, 200-201