



Millwoods Community Church

A 2304-38 St. NW, Edmonton, AB, T6L 4K9 E office@mcchurch.ca T 780.463.7427

March Newsletter

Dear Millwoods Community Church,

Earlier today I watched a TikTok about city planning, about the different kinds of actions individuals can take to improve the places they live, and they used the boxing metaphor of jab, jab, jab, right hook. I thought it was also an appropriate way to think about Lent, Holy Week, and church community. If the purpose of a boxing match, winning, is best achieved by knocking out the other boxer, and right hooks are the most common way of knocking out your opponent, then why waste so much energy jab-jab-jabbing? It takes time and energy to jab over and over and does not have any direct result.

If the purpose of Christianity is eternal life, helping us deal with difficult times, and making this world more like the kingdom of heaven, why 'waste' time doing things that take time and energy and may not lead to direct results? Things like regular attendance, helping run the sound board or greet folks as they arrive at church, participating in small groups and Holy Week services?

The thing is, right hooks don't always land and without the dance of jabs they are less likely to have an effect. Sometimes it feels like the jabs — small, regular, ordinary actions — have no lasting or substantive affect, are a waste of energy. At the same time, right hooks — actions that have substantive effects but can feel like a long grind to get to — can lead to a sense of complacency or apathy when they don't always land. When we do one or the other it can make us feel ineffective and make us wonder, "why even try."

We need both jab-jab-jab and right hooks in our spiritual walk. Attending church on Easter and Christmas is a grand celebration and can feel inspiring so you can do the big thing, but without the regular jab-jab-jab of regular attendance, participation, and contribution, those big right hook services can be felt to be ineffective.

Those jab-jab moments and opportunities set us up to be able to land our right hook moments — when we need Easter or Christmas to really hit home, when we need to offer support to a friend in crisis, when we are overwhelmed and don't know which way is up. It's the regular practice that makes the meaningful action possible.

So, spend some time reflecting on what are some of those jab-jab-jab moments and practices in the life of the church and your own personal life that seem ineffective by themselves but collectively set you up to be a good disciple of the Lamb of God when those big moments arrive.

One of those jab-jab moments for me is Holy Week. They do not lead to any direct, meaningful action or change, but year after year they have set me up to be present to those difficult moments of sitting with loved ones in crisis. I challenge you to make those services as much of a priority as Easter, because Easter does not make sense — the right hook does not land — without Holy Week.

Peace to you,
Pastor Aaron

F.Y.I Corner

Easter Sunrise Service

Our Easter Sunrise Service will be at 7:00am on March 31 and it will be held in our God's Acre at 34 Avenue & 34 Street. After the service we'll get breakfast together at a local restaurant.

Holy Week

Please make plans now to join us for all of our Holy Week service. Katie and Pastor Aaron are working with some of your suggestions to make them more engaging and meaningful. Holy Week Readings will be at 7:00 the week of March 24th on Monday, Tuesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.

Outdoor Way of the Cross Edmonton's 44th Annual Good Friday "Journeying Home"

When: Good Friday, March 29, 2024, 10 a.m.

Where: 99 Street and 107 Avenue

What: The 1.5-kilometre walk is reasonable for most ages and ability levels

This year's theme is based on Isaiah 58:6-7: "Is not this the fast that I choose. . .to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless into your house." People of all faith traditions are welcome. Free street parking is available near the start location. Light refreshments will be provided at Hope Mission (106 Avenue and 99 Street) after the final station.

For more information, contact Marguerite Watson at marguerite.watson@telus.net or visit the Way of the Cross website. Search "Good Friday Outdoor Way of the Cross Edmonton"

WINGS Spring Cleaning

WINGS needs help cleaning out and organizing some of their storage space and have asked if we can help. It's mostly light work. Pastor Aaron is trying to organize a group for either March 7 from 9am to 2pm. Please let Pastor Aaron know if you're interested in helping!

Wings Mother's Day Tea *We are excited to celebrate together in person!*

Date: Saturday May 11th, 12:30pm to 3pm (Doors open at 11:30am)

Location: Heritage Park (Venue) in Stony Plain, AB! 5100 41 Ave, Stony Plain, AB

Tickets: \$65 each (\$30 Tax Deductible Receipt Issued) or

Table of 8: \$520.00 This year's event will include:

- Tea and light refreshments from Upper Crust Cafe, and special sweets from The Melting Pot
- Special Guest Speaker
- Exclusive In-Person Only Raffle Packages
- 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes
- Photo Booth & more!

Vegetarian and Gluten Free options available upon request - contact Debbie at 780-426-4985

All proceeds support WINGS' programs, which provide hope and healing to women and children who have escaped domestic violence. ***Thank you for your support!***

(Let Pastor Aaron know if you will be attending and he will book a table for MWCC attendees.)

Van-Es Dinner Fundraiser

Join Megan in this fundraiser to send kids to camp for free! On June 1, doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm! There will be a silent auction, live entertainment with all proceeds going towards our camper experience fund.

Tickets are 70\$ + a small service fee if purchased on eventbrite, however alternatively people can contact me directly for tickets at Megankpbedford@gmail.com or 780-996-5799

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/van-es-summer-camper-experience-fundraising-dinner-tickets-816083576947?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listin&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

Thank you!! Megan Bedford

Save the date

MWCC annual golf tournament is already booked for June 1, 2024. So mark your calendars to be there! More details to follow closer to the date.

Community Care & Connection

Visitations

Need a visit or call from your Pastor or know someone who does? Just let him know 780-862-9453.



Millwoods Prayer List

Barb S, Armand, Bernie, Meta, Susan, Bill and Gladys, Velma & Lawrence, Carol & Irene, Cindy & Harold, all those who are suffering with colds/flu this season, BECD, the people of Ukraine, the people of Middle East, MWCC Joint Board.

Candle Fund

The church candle fund is an ongoing offering. So far this fund has helped us order WeCan food for those in need, purchase non perishables for the church food cupboard, pay for a car ride for less fortunate people to make it to shelter late at night. We could not be the church we are without you! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts Aaron, Katie, and Melanie!!

WeCan Food Basket



We are looking for more volunteers to help out with the distribution of food that we receive for our WeCan food baskets. This is a great opportunity to support the Edmonton community around us. We are fortunate to have our pickup depot grow substantially. If you would like to help please speak to: Ken, Sandy, Ron, Sonja, or Pastor Aaron.

To place an order please

- go to [WE CAN Food Basket Society](#) to order online. Or,
- For in-person cash orders, please come to the church on the third Thursday of the month from noon-2:00 (the same as our pick up time).

MWCC YouTube Channel

Here's the [link](#) to our YouTube channel or scan the new QR code with your phone. **Please subscribe again!** Any questions feel free to talk to Pastor Aaron.



Food Pantry Needs

Our food pantry has helped several families since the middle of December and we're currently low on or out of: **shelf stable fruits and vegetables, cereal, oatmeal, and powdered potatoes.** Our neighbours would greatly appreciate it if you could bring any of these items in for the pantry.

Worship

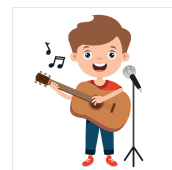
Volunteers!

Thank you to all those who have stepped up to help with our services. You are appreciated more than you know! We couldn't run worship without you!



Musicians for Sunday Worship

Are you interested in joining us by using your talents and skills in music for our Sunday morning services? If you are interested in doing this please contact Katie with a few Sundays you are free to participate in.



Donate

If you would like to give an offering or donation to our church you may do so by: mailing in your offerings, sending an E-Transfer to office@mcchurch.ca, or go to www.mcchurch.ca and click on the donate button on the top of the homepage, and choose which method of donation you wish to use.

District Newsletter

The Canadian District Dispatch has been restarted! The volunteer who is creating the newsletter is using a new program to keep the newsletter readable and accessible, and to make distribution easier and faster. The best way to receive the District Dispatch each month is to [subscribe](#) using your personal email address. Your email address will only be used for district communications and will not be shared, and you can unsubscribe at any time by clicking the "unsubscribe" link toward the bottom of any District Dispatch.



To subscribe, please click this link: <http://eepurl.com/iAb9cM>. If you are unable to click the link, copy and paste or type it into your browser. The only information we collect is your name and email address. Thank you for supporting this effort to get district information to a wider audience more efficiently!

“Millwoods Community Church gathers on Treaty 6 Territory, the traditional lands of First Nations and Metis People, and on the former Papaschase Reservation.”

[Learn more here.](#)

Millwoods Community Church

2304-38 Street, Edmonton, AB 780-463-7427

office@mcchurch.ca www.mcchurch.ca

Rev. Aaron Linville Phone#780-862-9453, email: pastoraaron7427@gmail.com

Music Director: Katie Tilbury Phone#403-550-5424 email: tilbury@ualberta.ca

Church Administration: Melanie Wilcox Phone #780-463-7427, email: office@mcchurch.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday 10am to 1pm. Please phone and make an in office appointment

March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					March 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:30 Worship			10 - 12 WeCan In person order	WINGS Spring Clean up March 7 & X Let Aaron know if you can help	WeCan online order due	9am Quilting group
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:30 Worship				7-9 pm Choir Practice		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:30 Worship				12-2pm WeCan Pickup		1-4 pm Choir & Praise Band Practice
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 Palm Sunday Worship Choir & Praise Band	Holy Week Service 7pm	Holy Week Service 7pm	Holy Week Service 7pm	Maundy Thurs 7pm Communion	GoodFriday Service 7pm	1-3 pm Choir & Praise Band Practice
31	April 1	2	3	4	5	6
7am Sunrise Service 10:30 Easter Service						