# June-July 2025 Newsletter Millwoods Community Church

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Dear Millwoods Community Church,

If you pay close attention to how I talk about God, you'll notice I almost never say almighty God. Instead, I talk about the God of abundance. I do this for two reasons. The first is I think it recovers more of what is conveyed in the Hebrew when many of our transitions say, "God almighty." The other is an intentional shift away from focusing on scarcity.

I know I'm not alone in the fact that my initial reaction to many new ideas or options is to think about why it wouldn't work. Part of this is me trying to be pragmatic. There are also several occasions when I know it's a good idea, but my initial reaction is, "this won't work because of such-n-such scarcity." The scarcity could be money, time, volunteers, energy, space, emotional depth, health, headspace. Anything. But, we do not serve a God of scarcity. We serve a God of abundance who loves us more than we have words to express.

We hear the message of scarcity so much in our lives. We hear it from politicians, from parents who can't come to their kid's games because they have to work or are sick, from church members who say we can't try that because it could lead to an imagined possible negative, from reporters whose job oftentimes is to report on issues that stem from a shortage of something. But, we do not serve a God of scarcity.

Summer is typically the season when we experience abundance the most. The fields are full of crops, flowers are in bloom, harvest begins (Amy and I are already harvesting asparagus!), we hear more birds singing and insects chirping, and there is an abundance of warmth and pleasant weather. This summer, I invite you to intentionally choose to pay attention to the abundance all around you. Pay attention to what distracts you from the truth of abundance and leads you into a scarcity mindset and try to minimize the attention you give that distraction. Choose to focus on abundance. Choose to focus on that which is more like the one who created and loves you: the God of abundance.

Choose to focus on abundance for it will lead you closer to the one who is the source of abundance and goodness.

Peace to you, Pastor Aaron

### F.Y.I Corner

#### **Golf Day**

Come join us for our annual MWCC golf tournament at Pineridge Golf Course on June 7. Please plan to be at the club house no later than 10:15 a.m for our kick off, Tee times start at 10:34 a.m. Please join us after the tournament for a burger or hotdog and a potato salad side, water supplied or feel free to bring your beverage of choice.

#### Please see costs below

Per adult golf & meal \$60.00 Per senior (60+) golf & meal \$55.00 Meal only \$12.00 Power carts available at club house \$16.50 plus GST per person shared

Camping is available at Kokanee Springs RV park, \$50.00 for power, \$40.00 no power plus GST. Contact Kokanee directly 780-797-3058, let them know you are joining the group in the large group site.

#### Prepayment for golf is required.

You can pay by cheque to Bryan Paul or e-transfer to cbpaul@hotmail.com Please list names of golfers and who will be joining us for the meal only with a contact # when you send payment. We are looking forward to a great day with you all.

#### **Edmonton Moravian Church 120 yrs**

You are invited to join Edmonton Moravian Church for the celebration of their 120th anniversary on Sunday, June 8 at 10:30 AM service followed by lunch. **Please RSVP for lunch** by contacting EMC office at (780) 439-1063 or by email - EdmontonMoravian@shaw.ca

# Summer Potlucks Save the date <a href="#">Church BBQ</a>

July 13 right after worship service. We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, condiments, drinks, and veggie options. We ask folks to bring a favorite summer salad or dessert. If your last name starts with **L** to **Z** bring salads, last name starts with **A** to **K** bring desserts.

#### **Heritage Potluck**

August 24 right after worship and a quick church council. Bring your favorite Heritage dish or a dish that represents your family. Consider writing a short description of the dish and how it's connected to your heritage. Our goal is to celebrate and share our histories so prepare a bit extra (maybe for 8-10 people) so we can share leftovers with each other. The church will provide to-go containers.

#### **Save the Date: Church Council**

We will elect our delegate(s) to the 2026 Northern Province Synod at a called Church Council on August 24th after worship. The only order of business is the election so it will go quickly. Make plans to attend today! If you are interested in being a delegate, please let Pastor Aaron or a member of the Joint Board know.

#### 2026 Northern Province Synod

The next Northern Province Synod is June 25-26, 2026. We will elect our delegate(s) at a special church council on August 24, 2025. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, please let Pastor Aaron know.

Any member in good standing of the Northern Province can submit a proposal for synod to consider. If you've ever thought, "the church should do \_\_\_\_\_\_" you can write and submit a proposal about it. Proposals need to be written a specific way so ask Pastor Aaron for help.

#### **Understanding Christian Nationalism: A Canadian Perspective**

Even though Christian Nationalism is a distortion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ it is becoming increasingly influential in North American Churches and politics. The last Northern Province Synod passed legislation urging our members and congregations to learn more about Christian Nationalism, how it distorts the Gospel, and how it sneaks into the church and politics.

There have been a few US based events already, but this is the first event from a Canadian perspective. Make plans to attend today!

Thursday, May 29, 10 a.m. – noon

On Zoom: https://bethelcamrose.wordpress.com/ or scan the QR code

Meeting ID: 881 6501 6446 Passcode: 849459

Dr. Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament, Lancaster Theological Seminary, Moravian Theological Seminary, Pennsylvania

Dr. Marc D. Froese, Professor of Political Science Founding Director of the International Studies Program, Burman University, Alberta. Sponsored by Bethel Lutheran Church, Camrose AB Questions? Contact pastordeborahann@telus.net



# **Community Care & Connection**



#### **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. Interested in helping? Please speak to Ken, Sandy, Ron, Sonja, or Pastor Aaron.

To place an order please

- go to <u>WECAN Food Basket Society</u>, to order online.
- 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).

# Talk with your Pastor

Your Pastor wants to visit you and know how you're doing. If you see him stop and chat, call the church office or the Pastors number 780-862-9453.



# **Millwoods Prayer List**

Meta, Carol & Irene, Rita, BECD, MWCC Joint Board.

# **Worship**

#### **Sunday Readers**

Thank you to all those who have signed up to read this month! We could not do it without you!





#### **Coffee Fellowship**

Who doesn't enjoy visiting after worship? Please consider signing up for a coffee fellowship.

#### **Communion dates for 2025**



Our Elders decided to make a small tweak to our communion schedule for 2025 in favor of having more predictability and consistency. As a general rule, we'll celebrate Holy Communion on the last Sunday of each month. We'll also celebrate Communion on Moravian festival days. We know some of you really want to prepare for celebrating Communion and we hope this schedule will help you with that part of your discipleship. Here's the schedule:

June 29 July 6 (Jan Hus) August 17 (August 13th Festival) August 31 October 5 (World Communion) October 26 November 9 (Chief Elder Festival) November 30 (Advent 1) December 28



#### **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 <a href="mailto:office@mcchurch.ca">office@mcchurch.ca</a>, or

going to <u>www.mcchurch.ca</u> and clicking on the donate button on the top of the homepage, and choosing which method of donation you wish to use.



#### Get the Newsletter for the Northern Province!

Make sure you subscribe to the Moravian monthly newsletter to receive information for the District and Northern province. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Sylvie Hauser at sylvie@mcnp.org with comments, concerns, or questions about these changes.

"Millwoods Community Church gathers on Treaty 6 Territory, the traditional lands of First Nations and Metis People, and on the former Papaschase Reservation." <u>Learn more</u> here.

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Rev. Aaron Linville Phone#780-862-9453, email: <a href="mailto:pastor@mcchurch.ca">pastor@mcchurch.ca</a>
Music Director: Katie Tilbury Phone#403-550-5424 email: <a href="mailto:music@mcchurch.ca">music@mcchurch.ca</a>
Church Administration: Melanie Wilcox Phone #780-463-7427, email: <a href="mailto:office@mcchurch.ca">office@mcchurch.ca</a>
Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10am to 1pm and by appointment.

June 2025									
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
June 1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
			10-12 WeCan in-person order due	Online WeCan orders are due		Millwoods Golf Tournament 10:30 am			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
Worship 10:30									
EMC 120th Anniversary 10:30am									
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
Worship 10:30 Father's Day				12 - 2 pm WeCan in-person pickup					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
Worship 10:30									
29	30								
Communion Service 10:30  Birthday Celebration Sunday!									

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
			10-12 WeCan in-person order due	Online WeCan orders are due		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Communion Worship 10:30						
Summer July 6 to 3	Camp at Va July 9	n Es! Grade	1 to 3			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:30 Church Potluck BBQ				12 - 2 pm WeCan in-person pickup		
	ner Cam	p Grad	e 4 to 6	July 13	- 18	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10:30						
Sumr	ner Ca	mp Gra	de 7 to	12 Jul	y 25	
27	28	29	30	31	August 1	2
Service 10:30		— <i>9</i>	J.	U*	g-	_
Birthday Celebration Sunday!						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9