

CONFERENCE NEWS

Fort Frances Covenant Church, Fort Frances, Ontario

As we begin another year, we have had opportunity to reflect and see some of the ways that God has been at work, which we find encouraging as we look forward to another year of ministry. We are grateful for your prayers and companionship in the work of the kingdom.

We are in a season of prayer, seeking that our hearts and lives reflect the priorities of God's heart. We are asking for a deeper awareness of our hunger for God and what He wishes to do in our lives and community. We are asking God for a powerful move of his Spirit in our community to open spiritual eyes, ears, and hearts to our need and the answer to our need. Please pray for our leadership as we seek to discern God's leading.
Ken Johnson, Pastor

MALMO MEMORIES

Recorded in the "Battle Lack Syforening" Cash Book on January 6, 1898, a list of the 'Young Bachelors' that gave 25 cents (or more!) to support the Ladies in buying wool to make stockings, to "thereby raise money to buy lumber and windows for a meeting house".

Handwritten cash book entry from 1898 listing donors and amounts for the Battle Lack Syforening. The entry is dated January 6, 1898, and lists the following donors and amounts:

Donor	Amount
Mr. George Anderson	25
Mr. John Ekstrom	25
Mr. P. Ancherberg	25
Mr. Olof Helsing	25
Mr. Nils Helsing	25
Mr. Arvid Nilson	25
Mr. O. J. J. J. J.	25
Mr. Nils J. J. J.	25
Mr. Nils J. J. J.	25
Mr. Carl Carlsson	25
Mr. Johan Engstrom	50
Mr. Ed Engstrom	25
Mr. Charles Lindall	50
Mr. John Bergman	50
Mr. Walter Bergman	25
Mr. Carl J. J. J.	25
Mr. O. J. J. J.	25
Mr. Anton Anderson	25
Summa	510.75

Annotations on the image:

- 1898! (pointing to the year)
- "Syforening" - Swedish for "Sewing Circle" (pointing to the title)
- Big spender! 😊 (pointing to the 50.00 entry)
- Total raised = \$10.75 (pointing to the total sum)

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

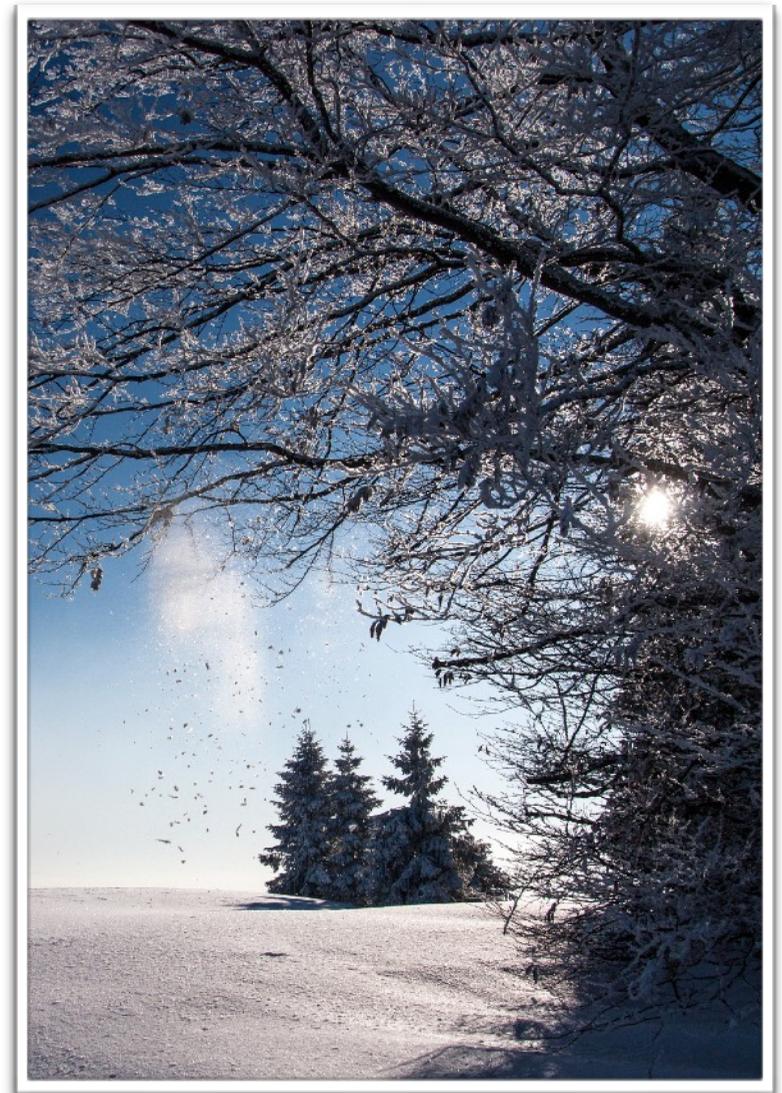
We love to fellowship together after the Sunday morning service. Join us downstairs for a cup of coffee & some goodies.
A huge thank you to all who provide the treats every week!

Jan. 27	Edie & Carolyn	Mar. 3	Stacey & Marlies
Feb. 3	Sarah & Pattie	Mar. 10	Ruth & Jenell
Feb. 10	Linda & Charlene	Mar. 17	MaryLou & Lauren
Feb. 17	Lise & Lisa R.	Mar. 24	Kathy & Lori
Feb. 24	Eunice & Veronica	Mar. 31	Elnice & Delora

MALMO MISSION COVENANT CHURCH

Lead Pastor, Rev. Randall Friesen
Associate Pastor, Rev. Marc Vandersluys
Office Admin, Delora Doell

780-352-2721, office@malmochurch.ca
Prayer request: malmoprayer@gmail.com



MALMO

MISSION COVENANT CHURCH

TODAY'S WORSHIP

We're so glad that you joined us this morning. If you are in need of hearing assistance, please see today's Audio team in the back corner of the sanctuary & they'll provide you with a hearing device.

Join us tonight at 7:00pm as we view "The Long Road Home" - a film about a European family finding their way to Canada & Alberta as refugees during the war years. After the film we'll be having conversation about our own histories and how we can care for the world today.

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

- Pastor Randall
- Pastor Marc
- Lois Schultz

OUR SCRIPTURE

- Nehemiah 8:1-10 (NIV)

OUR WORSHIP SONGS

- Come Now is the Time
- King of Heaven
- Come Thou Fount
- Good Good Father
- King of My Heart
- You are Holy

***'Kids Place' is available downstairs for restless toddlers & their caregivers.*

OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS PRAYER

Monday:

- ❖ Malmo New Build Committee
- ❖ Marc's mom -cancer diagnosis: upcoming surgery
- ❖ Helen M.

Tuesday:

- ❖ Pastors & Leaders of Malmo
- ❖ Sieg & Maxine
- ❖ PRAISE! Jordan H.feeling much better. Thanks for praying!

Wednesday:

- ❖ Youth Night - students/leaders
- ❖ Larry & Edie - recovery & health
- ❖ Gayle B's friend, Connie-health

Thursday:

- ❖ Steve & family - health
- ❖ Madison R - travels to India
- ❖ Nadene - continued treatments & appointments

Friday:

- ❖ Audrey - health struggling
- ❖ Bert & Vivian
- ❖ Kathy F. - back issues & pain

Saturday:

- ❖ Fort Frances Covenant Church, Fort Frances, Ontario
- ❖ Dave & Carol A.
- ❖ Heather's friend - struggling with depression. Pray for peace & wisdom.

Email prayer requests to: malmoprayer@gmail.com

Life at Malmo

THIS WEEK

Sunday	Sunday School (9:45am) Worship Service (11:00am) "The Long Road Home" film & conversation (7:00pm)
Tuesday	Men's Prayer (6:30am)
Wednesday	Youth Night at New Sweden (6:00pm)
Thursday	College & Career Bible Study (7:00pm)
Friday	Shoveler's Bible Study (4:00pm)
Next Sunday	Sunday School (9:45am) Worship & Communion Service (11:00am)

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH SKI TRIP - FEB. 2ND

One day ski trip to Sunshine Village. Cost: \$91 plus food & rentals (if needed). Let Jeramie-Lee know by TODAY if you're interested in going.

MALMO PLAY DATE

FEB. 13TH 10:00 - 11:30AM

A time for moms with preschoolers to come to the church and fellowship with other moms in the community, while the children play together. Invite your friends! Snacks & coffee will be provided.

CANADA CONFERENCE GIVING SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 17TH

MALMO C.E. TALKS - "LOVING YOUR ONLINE NEIGHBOUR", SATURDAY FEB. 23RD 10AM-NOON

The Bible says that all of scripture is summed up in the command to "Love your neighbour." Our neighbours online (Facebook, website comments, etc.) are no exception to Jesus' command to us, but this is sometimes easy to forget. Join us for a conversation about being Christ-like in our online presence.

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NEWS

UPDATE FROM CANADA COVENANT OFFICE

It's been a season of change for the Canada Covenant Office and team. Give thanks with us:

- for the continuing smooth transition to our new office in Strathmore, Alberta
- for God's provision of a new bookkeeper. Brandi Bobee of Hope Community has been hired and has begun training for her new role. We're thankful for our newest team member!

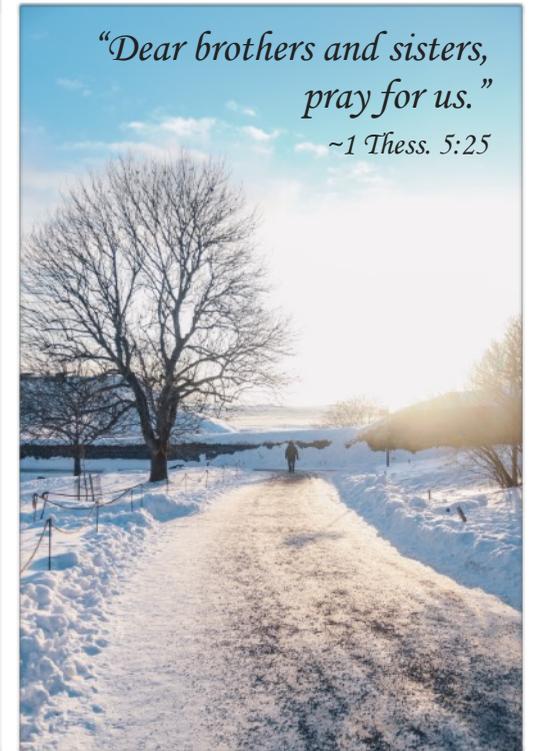
Please update your records with our new contact information.

Our new address is: PO Box 2247
Strathmore, AB T1P 1K2

Our new phone number: 403-324-9552

*"Dear brothers and sisters,
pray for us."*

~1 Thess. 5:25



PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH LEADERS

An excellent article by Christina Fox, posted on “The Christward Collective” website on January 17, 2017. (www.alliancenet.org)

The warning in the book of James to teachers is sobering, “Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness” (3:1). Some of that “greater strictness” is seen in the responses of church members and the greater community to a teacher’s sin. These days, it seems like the whole world leans in to watch and remark about a church leader’s fall from grace. When a church leader or pastor falls into sin, we hear about it instantly and read about it over and over on social media. We shake our heads in sadness and think, “Not again.” We discuss among ourselves how such sin could have been prevented, how the church should respond, and may even secretly wonder about the leaders of our own church—will they too stumble into sin?

Paul asked the church in Thessalonica to pray for him and his fellow workers (1 Thessalonians 5:25). To the church in Colossae, he wrote, “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak” (4:2-4). The writer to the Hebrews, after calling them to obey their leaders and submit to them (3:17), wrote “Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honourably in all things” (verse 18).

Prayer is one of the main disciplines of the Christian faith. It is a means which God uses to carry out his will. In prayer, we are drawn into deeper dependence upon God and learn more and more of our need for him and his grace. James tells us, “The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (5:16). Not only that, Scripture commands us to pray. And as we’ve seen, the apostles asked the church to pray for their ministry.

If Paul and the other disciples needed prayer, how much more so do those who lead, shepherd, and oversee us in the church! And they need our prayers, not just when there is controversy in the church. Not just when they are ill. Not just when there is a budget shortfall or a search is on for a new pastor. But all the time. We need to be in regular prayer for our pastors, elders, deacons, and their families. As Matthew Henry noted regarding Hebrews 13:17, “The more earnestly the people pray for their ministers, the more benefit they may expect from their ministry.” The more we pray for our church leaders, the more we can expect God to use our churches to impact the Kingdom for the gospel.



Praying for Church Leaders

Pray for Pastors: Pray that they would preach the word of truth, “be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching” (2 Timothy 4:2). Pray for their preparation and delivery of sermons. Pray that they would proclaim Christ, “warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ” (Colossians 1:28). Pray that they would faithfully administer the sacraments. Pray that they would equip the saints for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4:12). Pray also for their pastoral work, that they would encourage and counsel the flock with wisdom and discernment. Pray for the stress they bear in their work and in carrying the weight of responsibility for our souls, that they would find rest in Christ. Pray that they would resist temptations to sin and depend wholly upon the grace of Christ.

Pray for Elders: Pray that they would continue to display and live out the qualifications listed in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. Pray that they would shepherd the flock with wisdom, “shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock” (1 Peter 5:2-3). Pray that they would seek to know the members of the church, investing in their lives, and walking alongside them in both their sorrows and joys.

Pray for Deacons: Pray that, like the elders, they would continue to live out the qualifications in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Pray that they would have compassionate and merciful hearts toward those that they help and serve. Pray that they would have wisdom in the decisions they make (Acts 6:3). Pray that they would reach out to and serve widows, orphans, and others in distress (James 1:27).

Pray for their Families: Pray for the families of all church leaders. Pray for the extra burden they bear in sharing their loved one with the church. Pray for their own spiritual lives, that they would grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ. Pray that they would be encouraged and supported. Pray that their own lives would reflect the gospel to those around them.

Those who serve us in ministry bear a heavy responsibility for the care of our souls. Their work of ministry is hard and stressful and wears on both church leaders and their families. God has called us to pray for them. May we pray for them always, entrusting them to the care of our great and sovereign God.

PRAYER
changes things