



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Executive Committee Brenda Tiessen-Wiens **Moderator** Peter Sang **Vice-Moderator** Wayne Janz **Finance** Elizabeth Wall **Secretary** Tim Wiebe-Neufeld **Executive Minister**

MCA welcomes new Staff

Steven Giugovaz joined MCA as our *Church Engagement Minister*. He focuses on connecting MCA congregations, exploring missional callings and building connections with the ministries we share.



Suzanne Gross began as *North Edmonton Ministry Interim Worker*. This Christ-centred ministry focuses on relationships and draws our interfaith community together through witness, peace-building, hospitality, and dialogue.



As we stand on the shifting sands of the COVID-19 pandemic, we're challenged to examine the places we are connected and rooted, and how we express God's love in contexts of ongoing uncertainty. In 2021, MCA was filled with numerous expressions of the connections that we share with one another as a community of congregations.

Nurturing One Another

Tim Wiebe-Neufeld (Executive Minister) provides support for pastors and congregations including walking with congregations as they navigate transitions in leadership. He engages in meetings with chairs, treasurers and administrators, and connects with congregants through speaking opportunities.

Pastors Council is a place for our leaders to dialogue, vision and encourage each other as they provide spiritual leadership during these challenging times.

Delegate session workshops, the Heritage Retreat, Faith Studies sessions and the Pastors Retreat provided opportunities to participate in discussion, discernment and direction-setting.

Three post-secondary students were provided with bursaries as they explore faith and vocation at Anabaptist/Mennonite schools. The MC Canada Sustainability Leadership Group provides leadership and guidance as congregations examine their climate impacts and engage in creation care.



Spreading our Wings

Our MCA community stretched and adjusted to staff changes in 2021. In addition to welcoming two new staff, we celebrated 10 years of ministry and retirement with **Donna Entz** (North Edmonton Ministry). **Werner & Joanne De Jong** received an invitation to ministry in Ethiopia. They join **Tom and Christine**

Upcoming Events

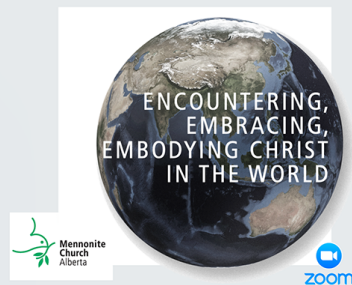
Snow Camp

February 26, 27



Annual Delegate Sessions

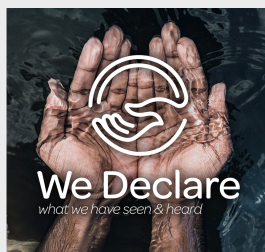
including the launch of **E3:Y3**
March 19 by zoom



Gathering 2022

We Declare: Edmonton

July 29 - August 1



Amplify: Camp Valaqua

July 31- August 4



Poovong (Thailand) as Alberta-based workers in our team of International Witness workers who train and provide resources to church leaders. International Witness is made up of 13 country partnerships around the world.



Celebrations

We celebrated together in 2021! On March 21, our 12 congregations met together on zoom to worship God, who invites us into community. Throughout the year congregations worshipped together, apart, in person and online, building on our **E3 theme: Encountering, Embracing, Embodying Christ in Community.**



The return of summer camp elicited celebrations for people of all ages, from children, to parents, to staff and a range of volunteers.

Camp Valaqua provides a valuable space to encounter

God in nature and for future leaders to gain skills and experience.

The Congregational Leadership Committee has the privilege of exploring one of our greatest celebrations together with congregations - the call to ministry and ordination of leaders!

Faith and Faithfulness

These, and the numerous other expressions of faith and faithfulness in MCA staff and committee members, and the stories we hear from our congregations are evidence of God's goodness. They're evidence of a community that trusts one another and of people who are inspired and empowered by their faith. We don't know what curves the road ahead will hold, but we enter 2022 knowing God is faithful.

B. Tiessen-Wiens

Brenda Tiessen-Wiens, Moderator