

Mennonite Church Alberta
March 13-15, 2026, March Gathering Schedule
Lethbridge Mennonite Church

Storytelling: A Bridge to Healing and Hope

Jesus said, " Tell them how much the Lord has done for you
and what mercy he has shown you." Mark 5:19b NRSV

Friday, March 13

1:00 – 4:30 pm Pastors’ Council with guest Arlyn Friesen Epp.

5:00 pm Supper for Pastors’ Council and invited guests

6:30 pm Registration table open

7:30 pm **Evening Worship**

- ❖ Prelude - MCA Milestones/Year in Review
- ❖ Opening and Welcome
- ❖ Sharing from Host church – Lethbridge Mennonite Church
- ❖ Stories from MCA
- ❖ Offering - MCA
- ❖ Scripture
- ❖ Guest Speaker – robert peters “breadcrumbs through cancer”
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Closing Prayer

Saturday, March 14

8:00 am Registration table open

9:00 am **Morning Worship**

- ❖ Prelude - MCA Milestones/Year in Review
- ❖ Singing– Strangers No More and theme song?
- ❖ Scripture
- ❖ Guest Speaker – Gary Garrison “Way better than Mere PR”
- ❖ Prayer

9:45 am **General Session**

- ❖ Sharing from MCA - Keith Retzlaff
- ❖ Sharing From MC Canada - Arlyn Friesen Epp
- ❖ Introduction of Guests/Greetings
- ❖ Announcements

10:45 am **Coffee Break**

11:15 am **ADS Sessions**

- ❖ Presentation of Nominees

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- ❖ Minutes of 2025
- ❖ Financial statements
- ❖ Presentation of Budget

Workshops

1. "Can I ask ChatGPT to pray for me?"- Jen Otto
2. "Stories of grief and sacred bundles that help us stay connected to the Kingdom of God" – Suzanne Gross and Ruth Bergen Braun

12:15 pm **Lunch**

1:30 pm **ADS Sessions**

- ❖ Budget Discussion
- ❖ Budget Vote (voting privileges for delegates only)
- ❖ Calgary Chin Church Membership

Workshop

1. Creation Care Working Group with guest Sandy Plett from MC Canada

2:00 pm **General Session**

- ❖ Camp Valaqua Presentation/Discussion (voting privileges for delegates only)

2:30 pm **Afternoon worship**

- ❖ Scripture
- ❖ Speaker – Joani Neufeldt "Where do you walk with God?"
- ❖ Offering – Camp Valaqua
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Prayer

3:15 pm **Coffee Break**

3:45 pm **Workshops**

- ❖ • Can I ask ChatGPT to pray for me - Jen Otto
- ❖ • Do we worship/believe in God or "values"? - Ryan Dueck.
- ❖ • Creation Care Working Group with guest Sandy Plett from MCCanada.
- ❖ • Stories of grief and sacred bundles that help us stay connected to the Kingdom of God – Suzanne Gross and Ruth Bergen Braun

5:00 pm **Worship**

- ❖ Commissioning of Volunteers

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- ❖ Bridge Building Recognition
- ❖ Announcements

5:30 pm **Visiting**

6:00 pm **Supper**

7:30 pm **Worship**

- ❖ Opening and Prayer
- ❖ **Spirit Acts** A Monologue Based on Acts 1-12 by Arlyn Friesen Epp

This biblical retelling explores several key "Spirit moments" in the first half of the book of Acts. It traces the apostle Peter's journey as he slowly comes to understand what the church is becoming from Jesus going up to heaven, through the different Pentecost moments (for Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles), to the mixed, multicultural church in Antioch.

At the same time, it asks us a question: Are we aware of how the Spirit is still working in powerful, timely ways in the middle of our everyday lives?

Music provided by LMC Tone Chimes

- ❖ Questions/Comments/Discussion
 - ❖ Closing
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Sunday, March 15. 10:30 am Worship

- ❖ Prelude
- ❖ Opening Comments
- ❖ Call to Worship
- ❖ Welcome from MCA
- ❖ Prayer
- ❖ Children's Time
- ❖ Scripture
- ❖ Message Salvation Stories - Ryan
- ❖ Offering
- ❖ Communion
- ❖ Closing
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Benediction

12:00 pm **Lunch** (registered guests only)

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1:00 pm **Farewell**

Notes:

- ❖ Music throughout the weekend provided by the LMC Worship Team
- ❖ Musicians for Sunday include Ruth Dueck and Heather Klassen