



STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

January 25, 2026

"EVERYDAY IS A FRESH START." – PASTOR SHERRYL

This past week there have been many people that have been ill with either a cold, or respiratory virus that has been making its rounds. As a response to this, I decided to start drinking my "preventative drink" which consists of boiling water, honey and slices of lemon.

As I went into the staff cupboard at church to look for an appropriate mug to put this drink into, I found this one (see the picture below) and thought it was exactly what I needed for my drink.



However, when I took a closer look, it was also exactly what I needed to be reminded of AND was a reflection on the passage in John 3 that Pastor Jon will be speaking on this Sunday.

The words on the mug say "Everyday is a fresh start." My interpretation of this is that everyday is another opportunity to receive grace and mercy AND to give grace and mercy.

John 3 is a familiar passage to many of us and the first 21 verses of the chapter are a conversation that Jesus has with Nicodemus about what it means to be in relationship with God through Jesus Christ, how the gift of grace and mercy are ours through Jesus Christ, as well as the gift of eternal life.

Nicodemus has questions and Jesus has a mix of questions and answers for him, yet one of the greatest (and most well known) texts is found in verse 16 where Jesus tells Nicodemus, *"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."*

What a profound declaration Jesus makes about God: that HE LOVES US and the world!

What a profound declaration Jesus makes about Himself: that He was given over to die so that we, by belief in Him, could have grace, mercy and eternal life.

May these profound words truly sink into our souls, so that not only are we encouraged and nourished by them, but that we take the time and energy to offer them to those around us...so they too can know they are loved by God and offered grace, mercy and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

These are the words of life and hope we have to offer a chaotic world!

This is how much **GOD LOVED THE WORLD:**

HE GAVE HIS SON, *His one and only Son.*

And this is why, so that

NO ONE NEED BE DESTROYED;

by **BELIEVING IN HIM,** **ANYONE** *can have a*

WHOLE and LASTING LIFE.

JOHN 3:3-8, 14-21

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

"How can someone be born when they are old?"

Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at My saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

"...Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life..."



This week's visit to our Mclvor family in Bethania was a wonderful time of fellowship together!

2025 TAX STATEMENTS

The tax statements for 2025 have been emailed, mailed, or put into the church mailboxes. If you received one via email, but would prefer a hard copy, please contact Colleen in the church office.

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

OUR CONDOLENCES



We express our sincere condolences to Albert Regehr on the death of his daughter Elsie Ruth Regehr on January 20. Please pray for him and his family as this is his second child to die within

the past several months. She was predeceased by her mother Irmgard Regehr and her brother Randy Regehr. Albert just celebrated 102 years of life and finds these losses especially difficult! A celebration of life was held Monday, January 26 at the First UU Church of Winnipeg.

Read Elsie's obituary:

<https://tillwell.ca/obituary/tillwell-elsie-regehr-obituary/>.

GIVING

We accept donations by cash, cheque, e-transfers to mcivor@mcivorchurch.com, or via credit card (scan the QR code). For Direct Deposit, contact the office.

Mclvor Avenue MB Church

200 Mclvor Ave., Winnipeg, MB, R2G 0Z8

mcivorchurch.com | 204.339.1691 | mcivor@mcivorchurch.com

Office hours: Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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