

ASSEMBLY 2020

We were grateful for the privilege to gather with 140+ individuals from Manitoba Mennonite Brethren churches, at Assembly 2020 on March 6-7. Thank you for joining us. The following is a summary of the event.



REJOICE IN HOPE BE PATIENT IN AFFLICTION AND PERSEVERE IN PRAYER. ROMANS 12:12 NRSV

THEME: REASSEMBLE

On Friday evening, Provincial Director, Cam Priebe and Director of Church Ministries, Jason Dyck expanded on our theme, Reassemble. Our theme verse Romans 12:12 provided the necessary framework.

We recognized that this past year included some significant struggles and brokenness. Cam gave us the context of our theme verse within the whole book of Romans. He also acknowledged the challenges we faced with the demerger of C2C from Multiply. This was followed by a transparent address from Jason, acknowledging the hurt and abuse that some members of our community experienced.

We participated in an activity involving a prayer frame filled with cloths that symbolized our prayers meshing together. Then, we shared communion in smaller groups throughout the auditorium. Together we acknowledged our pain while also looking towards the hope we have in Christ.



RESOURCES REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT

[Assembly Handbook](#)

[Single Stream Funding Info](#)

[Budget Amendment Letter](#)

[CCMBC Collaborative Model](#)



WESTWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, WINNIPEG

Thank you to all the staff and volunteers of Westwood Community Church for serving us so well and for their warm hospitality.



PROVINCIAL REPORTING

Ruth Schellenberg, the former MBCM Moderator, updated us on the work of board over the past year. See the [Leadership Board Report in the Assembly Handbook](#). Nominees on the election slate were accepted.

Jason Dyck led us through the revisions being considered for Article 8 of our Confession of Faith. At the 2021 Assembly, we will be asked to vote on the rewrite of the article on baptism. We took some time to gauge the temperature of our churches on the wording. What the new language suggests is that baptism moves earlier in the discipleship journey than it currently seems to occur for many people.



AGENCY REPORTING

It was encouraging to hear about the work God is doing through our various ministry partners:

- Canadian Conference
- Eden Health Care Services
- Simonhouse Bible Camp
- Square One World Media
- MB Seminary
- Multiply
- ICOMB
- Mennonite Central Committee
- Mennonite Disaster Services
- Canadian Mennonite University
- Steinbach Bible College
- Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute

See the [Assembly handbook](#) for their reports.

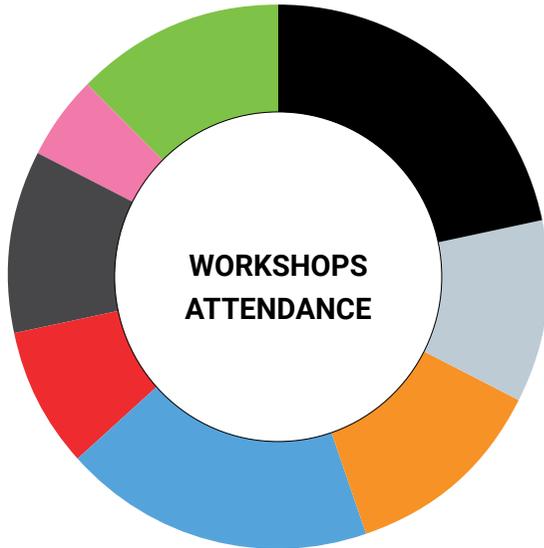


FINANCIAL REPORTING

Harold Froese, the former MBCM Treasurer, walked us through the 2019 financials (See [Assembly handbook](#)). Thanks to the generosity of our MBCM churches, we got extremely close to our budgeted support from churches of \$500,000.

Under the collaboration model, [Single Stream](#) funding asks that all Manitoba churches send all their conference support to MBCM. (See [Single Stream Diagram](#)).

The MBCM 2020 budget was passed with the requirement that amendments be made to reflect the amount that will be forwarded from MBCM to the Canadian Conference. [Read this letter from Harold regarding these amendments.](#)



WORKSHOPS

- Confession of faith
- Defining our mission together
- Communication, what's it good for?
- Caring for pastors panel
- Church in 2050
- Insurance
- Young adults, mental health & the church
- Discipleship and Mission

SOME FEEDBACK:

"Church in 2050 - very compelling information. well researched and inspiring"

"Communication and mental health workshops were beneficial. I found the information and discussion to be of great value."

"Caring for Pastors Very helpful and practical, particularly suggestions for pastoral evaluation and appreciative inquiry approach."

Stories

We build trust as we share and listen to each other stories. During short interviews, we had the privilege of hearing stories of hope and struggles.

John Unger (Westwood Community Church)

We celebrated with Westwood Community Church, who just had a baptism service with three individuals. John also shared about the current reality of the church seeking a lead pastor.

Karla Braun (Crossroads MB Church)

The former Managing Editor of the MB Herald acknowledged the loss of the printed MB magazine. She also encouraged us with the reminder that God is not anxious. We may be worried, but God is not.

David Gibson (Lakeview Community Church)

David highlighted an annual outdoor community event held by the church. People interact with each other through games and over food. He also drew our attention to a men's study group focused on the book of Psalms.