

renew

RESOURCING PASTORS FOR MINISTRY

Death, Funerals, and the Christian Hope



February 12-13, 2019

at Canadian Mennonite University

Monday, February 11

7:00-8:30 PM Face2Face Conversation Series

Topic: Let's Talk About Death...talking about it won't kill you

Panel:

Rick Zerbe Cornelsen, Casket/urn maker

Doug Koop, Spiritual Health Practitioner

Angelika Janz, Death Café Participant

Michael Boyce, Associate Professor of English and Film Studies

Tuesday, February 12

8:00-8:30 AM Registration

8:30-9:20 AM Welcome, Morning Worship with Bible study

- Bible Study on Ps. 23 – **Dan Epp Tiessen**; Associate Professor Emeritus of Bible
- Worship leader – **Christine Longhurst**; Assistant Professor of Music and Worship

9:20-10:20 AM Plenary session: Living in Hope, Dying Well – **Thomas Long**; Bandy Professor Emeritus of Preaching, Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, GA

- Moderator – **Gerald Gerbrandt**; President Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Bible

10:25-10:50 AM Coffee and Fellowship

10:50-11:25 AM Plenary session (cont.): responses and discussion

- Moderator – **Paul Doerksen**; Associate Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies
- **Michael Wilson**; Pastor; Charleswood United Church, Winnipeg, MB
- **Virginia Gerbrandt Richert**; Associate Pastor, Altona Berghthaler Mennonite Church, Altona, MB

11:30-12:00 PM Worship with the CMU community

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch

1:00-2:30 PM Plenary session: What is a Good Funeral? – **Thomas Long**

- Moderator: **Irma Fast Dueck**; Associate Professor of Practical Theology

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2:30–3:00 PM Coffee and Fellowship

3:00–5:00 PM Workshops

3:00–3:50 PM

- The Gospel According to Kim Kierkegaardashian: The End of Life in the Age of Infinite Twitter Feeds – **David Driedger**; Associate Minister, First Mennonite, Winnipeg, MB
- Funerals: A Celebration of Life or Mourning a Loss – **Scott Koop**; Associate Pastor, Portage Avenue Church, Winnipeg, MB
- Last(ing) Honours: Hutterite Funeral Practices – **Kenny Wollmann**; Member of the Baker Hutterite Community
- Thinking and Speaking of Life after Death – **Victor Froese**, Librarian

4:00–4:50 PM

- Funerals as Part of Community Ministry – **Sharon Schultz**; Pastor, Eyebrow Mennonite Church
- Funerals and Bodies – **Harry Huebner**; Emeritus Professor of Theology and Philosophy
- The View from the Lead Car: A Funeral Director's Perspective – **Harry Froese**; Funeral Director, Friends Funeral Home, Winnipeg, MB

5:30–7:30 PM A Banquet seasoned with Stories: A Lighter Look at Death and Funerals, with CMU Faculty and Administration

- Host – **Cheryl Pauls**, President
- Quartet, organized by **Jonathan Dueck**; Vice President Academic
- Stories by:
 - **Chris Huebner**; Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy
 - **Paul Dyck**; Professor of English
 - **Dori Zerbe Cornelsen**; Director of Development
 - **Wendy Kroeker**; Assistant Professor, Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies;

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Wednesday, February 13

- 8:30–9:20 AM Morning worship with Bible study
- Bible study of John 14 – **Sheila Klassen Wiebe**; Associate Professor of New Testament
 - Worship leader – **Christine Longhurst**
- 9:20–10:30 AM Plenary Session: Counselling and Supporting the Dying and their Families – **Kathleen Rempel Boschman**; Manager, Spiritual Care, Concordia Hospital and Personal Care Home
- Moderator: **Ryan Siemens**; Executive Minister, Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
- 10:30–11:30 AM Coffee and Fellowship
- 11:00–12:00 PM Plenary Session – Three Pastor Stories of difficult funerals
- Moderator – **Pierre Gilbert**; Associate Professor of Bible and Theology
 - Preaching at the funeral of someone who died by suicide – **Donita Wiebe Neufeld**; First Mennonite, Edmonton, AB
 - Presiding and preaching at a funeral where the death has caused (or brings out) considerable family tension– **Rick Sauer**; Pastor, St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, MB
 - Preaching at the funeral of someone who died with medical assistance in dying – **Paul Cumin**; Lendrum Mennonite Church, Edmonton, AB
- 12:00–1:00 PM Lunch
(12:20–12:50 PM – an information session on the CMU MDiv program will take place in the room next to the dining room)
- 1:00–2:30 PM Plenary session: “Preaching at Funerals: What are the Marks of a Christian Funeral Sermon?” – **Thomas Long**
- Moderator: **Karl Koop**; Professor of History and Theology, Director of Graduate School of Theology and Ministry

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2:30-3:15 PM

Closing worship with communion

- Leading the Service – **Rick Neufeld**; Director of Leadership Ministry, Mennonite Church Manitoba, **Gerald Dyck**; Director of Church Ministries, Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba; and **Christine Longhurst**
- Recitation of 1 Corinthians 15 – **Rudy Franz**; Pastor, Blumenort Mennonite Church, Gretna, MB

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Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba
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