

#### The Mission of Our Church

Our mission is to connect people with God and with each other

#### We value three things at this Church:

- 1. We are Spirit-filled.
- 2. We want to be a multi-generational church with every person having a purpose.
- 3. We want to be disciples who make disciples.

#### The Church As We See It

#### We Seek Authentic Community

Assiniboia Apostolic Church is a Jesus church. It aims at the heart more than the actions, for the actions flow from the heart. We are a growing church, but we do not only measure growth by people in our seats. Real life change and a deep commitment to Christ is our passionate pursuit.

#### We Care Deeply About Kids and Families

Assiniboia Apostolic Church deeply cares about kids and families because kids and families matter to God. We take seriously our responsibility to disciple the next generation because our God asks us to. We believe our kids and families need the gospel the same as we do, not just cute Bible stories and lessons in character. We do not shy away from tough subjects, because our enemy doesn't shy away from tough situations. Life is real; therefore, our instruction should reflect reality.

#### We Seek to Understand More of Our Great God

Assiniboia Apostolic Church believes in life-on-life discipleship. We believe that the greatest spiritual growth comes in community, therefore, we work hard to facilitate real relationships. We are not shy about our faults. We take seriously the command to spur one another on to good works. We are a thinking church. We are not content to just slide ignorantly through life. Therefore, we are constant learners always seeking to understand more of our great God. As a result, we are a church filled with teachers and students. We are serious about God but never take ourselves too seriously. We embrace tradition, but we will not be imprisoned by it. We love to think, but we are not afraid to have fun for the joy of the Lord is our strength.

#### We Are Engaged in the Issues of Our Communities

We are a generous church. We are not afraid of money and we will not be dominated by its pursuit. Because the earth is the Lord's, we see ourselves as stewards and not owners. Therefore, we hold loosely everything God puts into our hands. We are engaged in social transformation and cultural renewal. We seek to see His kingdom come; His will be done in Assiniboia as it is in Heaven. Therefore, we will not be content with building our little Christian kingdom, but rather we will engage in the issues of our communities.

#### We Are Comfortable with Who We Are

We're not desperate to be noticed, but we stand out for our uniqueness. We are comfortable with who we are and we know that we aren't going to be that for everyone. We are not a cult of personality. Our church is not built on one person, or one gift. Yes, we have a leader, but we are comfortable with different voices and different expressions of leadership.

#### We Are a Spirit-filled Church

Finally, we are a spirit-filled church. We embrace the gifts and the move of the Holy Spirit. We desire authentic encounters with the Holy Spirit.

## 7 Days of Prayer and Fasting



Assiniboia Apostolic Church
JANUARY 13th to 19th



### Why are we praying and fasting?

In Acts 13:2-3, we read, "While they (Church Elders) were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off."

The early Church discerned its next steps when it sought God's will through prayer and fasting. In Church history, spiritual awakenings and Christ-centered revivals have come to regions where God's people have gathered together for prayer and fasting.

It is our desire that this would be true of the Assiniboia Apostolic Church in this season in its story. We long to see the expansion of God's kingdom through the unique vision He has entrusted to us as a Church. This 7-day prayer and fasting guide is designed to help us pursue that goal.

As you pray each day, listen for the Holy Spirit to speak and keep your heart open to what He has to say. Prayer is not simply talking to God, but communication with God. Start your pray time by taking a minute or two with silence and stillness before God. Psalm 37:7 says "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him." During our times of silence and stillness: we receive His love, we let go, surrender our will to His will and we open ourselves to hear God speak. Journal as much as you can and confess your struggles and doubts should the Father bring up any issues in your life (1 John 1:9).

Most of all, BELIEVE that in response to your prayers, God is about to do immeasurably more than all you could ask or imagine here at and through the Assiniboia Apostolic Church.

# But I've Never Fasted.

What am I doing?



Fasting in the biblical sense is choosing not to partake of food because your spiritual hunger is so deep, your determination in intercession so intense, or your spiritual warfare so demanding that you have temporarily set aside even fleshly needs to give yourself to prayer and meditation. - Wesley L. Duewel

Fasting is an intentional abstention from food (or any craving) for a set period of time to seek God's will through prayer. Through fasting and prayer, we humble ourselves before God so the Holy Spirit will stir our souls, awaken our Church, strengthen our families, and draw our communities to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

This may be the first time some of you are participating in the Christian discipline of fasting and we want this to be a positive, life changing experience. We have therefore proposed several different levels at which you can participate.



## Fasting for Beginners Level

IThis is a great option if you have never abstained from food for lengthy periods or if you wish to refocus certain areas of your life that are out of balance. For example, you might choose to stop using social media or watching television for a set duration during the fast and then carefully bring that element back into your life in healthy doses at the conclusion of the fast. You can choose not to view any media from 6:00 pm to midnight, and spend that time praying at the top of each hour. You can also skip one meal each day, and spend that mealtime praying at the top of each hour. So, if you skip breakfast and you get up at 6:00 am, you can pray once at 7am, 8am, 9am, 10am, 11am, and wrap it up at noon.

## Fasting for Intermediate Level

You can do what's known as the Daniel fast. The Daniel Fast eating plan is like a vegan diet with more restrictions. The only beverage is water and the primary foods are fruits, vegetables, whole grains and legumes. There are no sweeteners on the fast and no processed foods or chemicals. For more information about the Daniel fast, visit this website (http://danielfast.wordpress.com/). During this fast, set aside four times during the day to pray: 9:00a.m, 12:00noon, 3:00p.m, and 6:00p.m. If you are an early riser, add a 6:00a.m prayer time.

### Fasting for Advanced Level

In this type of fast, you drink only liquids, typically water with light juices as an option during the duration of the fast. Certain medical conditions do not allow for some to engage in a food fast. If you have health concerns, seek the advice of a physician before fasting from food. Before fasting, you may be tempted to eat a large meal to stock up. This can have some negative effects on your body. It is best to wean yourself from food. Make your last meal before the fast a light meal consisting of fruits and vegetables. Stay away from greasy or oily foods. When breaking your fast, do so slowly. If engaging in an extended fast, ease your body back into a normal pattern by eating a light diet consisting mostly of fruits and vegetables. After a few days, you can begin to eat meats again

My fasting plan:

What I hope to gain:

What I am personally praying:



## Day 1 - Monday

### Jesus come, lead us on.

Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling! (Psalm 43:3, ESV)

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. (John 16:13, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS** •

Pray that God would make it clear that every ministry at AAC is a work of His Spirit.

- o **Sunday Gatherings** pray for visible evidence of the Spirit's work
- o **Preaching** pray that it would be empowered by the Spirit to see personal transformation
- o **Worship** pray that people would be led by the Spirit to passionately love Jesus
- Tech pray that our message and songs would reach into new territory
- o **GodVenture** pray that our kids would be formed in the gospel and God would send someone to step into P. Kimberley's role.
- o **Youth** pray that our kids would be empowered to live for Jesus out in culture
- o **Missional Community** pray for spiritual hunger in our community and that we would be a church which engages in intentional discipleship.
- o **Serve Teams** pray that people would serve out of the strength God supplies

Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead us; and that His will and direction for our church would be evident every step of the way.

Pray that in all we do, God would be glorified and would bring fame to His name in Assiniboia.

Pray that God would give all our pastors and elders a God-given vision for our church, and that He would revitalize each leader and his or her family spiritually, physically, and mentally.

Pray that our services would be thriving and growing disciples that transform our communities for Christ.

What are some thoughts and reflections God has

impressed on your heart during day one?

## Day 2 - Tuesday

### Jesus, forgive us our sins.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah (Psalm 32:5, ESV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray that God would humble our hearts and help us submit to His plans.
- Pray for godly sorrow that leads to repentance, which results in a spiritually healthy congregation.
- Pray that we would embrace the forgiveness of Christ and in turn extend the same forgiveness to others who have wounded us.
- Pray for boldness in confronting sin and for wisdom on how to do it with grace and love that leads to restoration.
- Pray that the Lord would sweep our "house" clean of any impurities and welcome His Holy Spirit to come in a fresh new way.
- Pray for a foundation in the Word of God to be laid and for willing submission to Biblical principles in God's people

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What are some thoughts and reflections God has impressed on your heart during day two?

## Day 3 - Wednesday Jesus, give us your wisdom.

Make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. (Psalm 145:12, ESV)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. (James 1:5, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray for godly wisdom as we seek what is next for AAC, as we aim to be spirit-empowered witnesses of Jesus locally, regionally, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8)
- Pray for attentiveness to the Holy Spirit's voice in all ALL areas of leadership.
- Pray for practical insights as the elders and board consider key questions and congregational concerns (e.g. finances, staffing, missions, church plants, property, leadership etc). •
- Pray for God's guidance through the communication process so there is no confusion or turmoil over any next steps that are identified through prayer and fasting

impressed on your heart during day three?		

What are some thoughts and reflections God has

## Day 4 - Thursday Jesus, protect us.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. (Ephesians 6:10–13, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray for spiritual protection around our congregation; that God would protect us from deception, temptation, and plans of the enemy that would wound people along the way.
- Pray that God would cause confusion in the camp of the enemy and that He would crush any works of Satan that will lead to confusion or chaos in our church.
- Pray that our church experiences a powerful move of God that will leave each one transformed by His presence and impassioned for His Kingdom.
- Pray for our families and marriages of AAC. That God would protect, restore and fortify each family and marriage.

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What are some thoughts and reflections God has impressed on your heart during day four?

## Day 5 - Friday Jesus, bless us.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20–21, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray that God will draw to Himself people in our region that are far from God.
- Pray that AAC continues to be a beacon of hope in our region, bringing generations to faith in Christ.
- Pray that God would lead us in determining the best strategy to reach, engage, and mentor Millennials.
- Pray for the supernatural works of Jesus to be manifested so that the surrounding community would be transformed by the Gospel
- Pray that our generosity would increasingly grow so that we can press the gospel into our local context, region, and to the ends of the earth.

impressed on your neart during day five?

What are some thoughts and reflections God has

## Day 6 - Saturday Jesus, give us rest.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28–30, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray that the peace of Christ's salvation will invade our hearts, minds, and steady our souls.
- Pray that we will be able to rest and enjoy our families, friends, and neighbours.
- Pray that we are can look back and thank God for all that He has done in our own lives with joy-filled hearts.
- Pray that we can look back and thank God for all that He has done in and through the ministry of AAC.
- Pray that we can each rest in the future promises of Christ's return.

impressed on your neart during day six?

What are some thoughts and reflections God has

## Day 7 - Sunday

### Jesus, grant us faith.

And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. (Mark 11:22–24, ESV)

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- Pray that God will grant us bold and courageous faith for the future of AAC.
- Pray that any discouragement would be overcome with hope
- Pray that we will receive the plans He has for us and take willing next steps of faith
- Pray that we will act in faith towards any personal direction the Lord has guided us individually or as a family unit over the period of the fast
- Thank God for the good things He has done, is doing and will do in and through AAC Psalm 136:1

impressed on your heart during day seven	1?

What are some thoughts and reflections God has