

# ***Bridgefolk Conference 2025***

**Mennonites and Roman Catholics in Dialogue**

## **Anabaptism at 500: Ecumenical Dialogue in an Age of Polarization**

**Twenty-third Annual Bridgefolk Gathering**

**July 24-27, 2025  
Winnipeg, Manitoba**

### **Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**

1:00 pm – 5:00 p.m. Arrival, Registration

5:30 Dinner

7:00 Opening & welcome to Treaty 1, welcome to Bridgefolk  
Introduction to worship themes  
Introduction to the conference theme  
Introduction of participants

8:30 Evening prayer

9:00 Snack

### **Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 Morning Worship

9:00 Morning Session 1 – Dr. Jennifer Otto

10:00 Small Group dialogue 1

10:30 Break

10:45 Morning Session 2  
Questions for speaker

11:40 Midday Prayer

12:00 Lunch

1:30 Afternoon session 1 – Practices for Respectful Dialogue: Odelia Duffus, Mediation Services

2:15 Small Group dialogue 2

2:45 Break

3:00 Afternoon session 2  
Somatic practices

3:30 Hearing the Bridgefolk Story

4:15 Free time

5:30 Supper

7:00 Evening prayers

7:30 Hymn Sing

9:00 Ice Cream Social

## **Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:30 Morning Worship
- 9:00 Morning Session 1 – Fr. John Klassen
- 10:00 Small Group dialogue
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Morning Session 2  
Questions for speaker
- 11:40 Midday Prayer
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Afternoon session 1 – Panel Discussion – Stories of Ecumenical Dialogue
- 2:45 Somatic practices – Melanie Neufeld
- 3:15 Orientation: Agape Meal – how we came to embrace this ritual
- 3:30 Free time
- 5:00 RC Mass at Holy Ghost Parish (optional)
- 6:00 Footwashing/Agape Meal (St. Kateri/Aberdeen MC)
  - Presider: Rev. Marlene Kropf
  - Homilist: Fr. Will Skudlarek
- 7:45 Refreshments, snack, informal discussion

## **Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 Reflection on conference theme & take-aways
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Morning Worship  
Leader: Rev. Mary Lehman Yoder  
Homilist: Rev. Phil Waite
- 12:00 Lunch & farewells