

Duchess Mennonite Church

1917 – 2017

A Century of Serving



Settlers Wanted - Just add Water

- In the early 1900's, the CPR built a vast irrigation system in southern Alberta.
- This brought settlers from far and wide.
- Some of those settlers were Mennonite and together in the early 1900's started to meet together which formed that basis for the future establishment of the Duchess Mennonite Church
- This new church was officially established in 1917.



The Start of a New Church

Who lived in these homes?

Where were they built?

Before there was a church building,

The believers met in homes.



The Start of a New Church

Duchess School

The settlers came to Duchess Alberta and wanted a place to worship. They had services in the school while the church was being built.



In 1918, Mennonite church services were held in the first Duchess School

Was one of your family members part of this early congregation?



2017: Our 100th Anniversary

We are in the process of producing a history book for the 100th anniversary of the Duchess Mennonite Church

We need your help to do this.

100th Anniversary History Book

We need your family history and/or current story.

We would like to start receiving your contributions as soon as possible:

- family history, then and now,
- photos, memorabilia, etc.

Were your parents leaders of Boys/Girls Clubs, Sunday School Teachers, Song Leaders, Summer Bible School, Chorister, etc.?

100th Anniversary History Book

Photographs are very necessary for a history book, whether they are of a family group, children's function, youth group, wedding etc.

Photos should be identified in a sleeve, post-it note, etc.

Please do not write on the back of the picture. All photos will be returned after being digitally reproduced. Please include your name and a return address so we can return the photos to you.

An outline to guide you with a format to write your family history is as follows:

- Names of parents including maiden name of mother with their birth dates, places of origin.
- Marriage dates & place.
- Listing children with birth dates/places/spouses.
- If coming from another country, what was the motivation coming to Duchess Mennonite Church.
- Highlights of a special occasion.
- List deceased dates, burial locations.
- Supplying a marriage photo and/or family photo.
- What office(s) did they/you hold in the church.

100th Anniversary History Book

How to share your photos:

Insert them in an envelope and place it in the mailbox of one of the following:

- Mark and Ronda Porter
- Gary and Helen Porter
- Harold and Mary Burkholder

Or mail the photos to:

100th Anniversary

Box 427

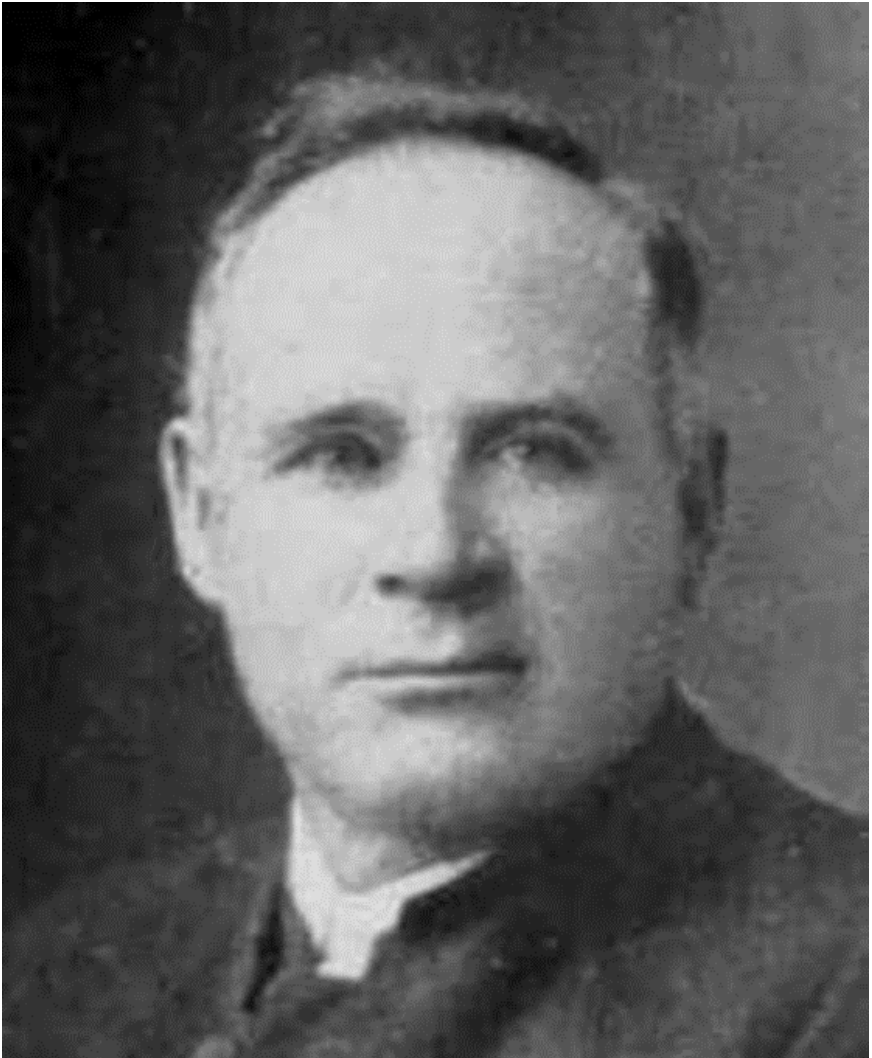
Duchess, AB T0J 0Z0

A Piece of Our History

In 1917, Bishop Norman B. Stauffer of Aldersyde, AB organized the congregation in Duchess.

Norman had come from Waterloo Ontario, being converted during John S. Coffman's ministry.

He was also an active member of the Mount View Mennonite Church near High River, Alberta.



100th Anniversary History Book

Family histories can be submitted by:

Email:

100anniversary@duchessmennonite.ca

Mail:

100th Anniversary

Box 427

Duchess, AB T0J 0Z0

**We need you to submit your family information
to the 100th Anniversary Book Committee by:**

December 31st, 2015

100th Anniversary History Book

Duchess Mennonite Church

Completed in 1924



Watch for updates on our website:
<http://100.duchessmennonite.ca>