

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, February 21, 2021

Worship Service

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE

February 21, 2021

Lent 1 ~ Called to deep Relationship

“You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

~ Mark 1:11b

GATHERING

Music **Jesus calls us here to meet him STJ 3**
Welcome and Announcements
Call to Worship and Prayer

LISTENING

Music **Spirit of Gentleness**
Children’s Story
Scripture **Mark 1: 9-15**
Sermon **“Defining our Relationships”**

RESPONSE

Ritual Response and Music
Offering Prayer & Prayer of the Church
Music **Out of the depths I cry to you HWB 133**
Sending Benediction
Music **Wait alone in stillness**

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Worship Leader: Josh Janzen

Children’s Story: Kristin Falk

Scripture Reader: Reece Harder

Music: Recorded Artists – Steve Bell, Jean & Jim Stathdee,
Point Grey Inter-Mennonite Fellowship

Our worship service will be available on the church website
[\[abchurchcommunity.ca\]](http://abchurchcommunity.ca) Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Doreen Sawatzky, Elizabeth Doell, Helen Schulz, and Waldo Schulz at Altona Health Centre, Anne Kehler at Notre Dame de Lourdes Hospital, Henry & Helen Thiessen in Morris Hospital.
- ~ **Anne Braun** has moved to # 209 Gardens On Tenth Apartments.
- ~ **Thank you** to my family, friends, and church family for your continuous love and support. Getting baptized last Sunday was an incredible experience and I wish all of you could have been there to celebrate with me. Despite the distance I was blessed by your prayers, cards, gifts, and words of encouragement. Thank you! ~ Kelsey Driedger
- ~ **Pastor Virginia** will be on holidays Feb 22-28.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
Pray for Ruthie and Myrrl Byler sent jointly by International Witness and Mennonite Mission Network to support Anabaptist training in Asia. Pray their visas for Thailand will be available soon so they can start working with various partners in the region.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Lent 2021 - Deep calls to Deep—God is calling us to go deeper. In preparation for this we invite you to *gather six items [stones, buttons, seashells or other objects]*, for each person in your household. These objects will represent our prayers for the season. You are welcome to place them in a bowl or glass so they are easily accessible as you join in with worship from home.

- Feb 28 - Lent 2 Called to deep Commitment
- Mar 7 - Lent 3 Called to deep Wisdom
- Mar 14 - Lent 4 Called to deep Healing
- Mar 21 - Lent 5 Called to deep Growth
- Mar 28 - Lent 6 Called to deep Hope
- Apr 2 - Good Friday
- Apr 4 - Easter - Called to deep Living

FROM the PASTOR: Josh Janzen

One thing that I have been thinking about recently is intergenerational youth ministry. Youth ministry (and many other ministries) often take place in silos. Now some of these silos are more rigid than others, but really, they are concerned with the faith formation of the group right in front of them. How would youth group and the life of the church change when we place intentional emphasis at building relationships and forming faith between generations? The Youth-at-Home kits that I've started doing these last couples of months are one attempt at moving towards intergenerational youth ministry, striving to let faith formation take place in and between families. So, what if we keep being more intentional about intergenerational ministry, what would it look like for adults and elders in our congregation to be intentional in forming the faith of our youth? What would it look like for our adults and elders to have youth contribute to their faith formation?

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Jr & Sr Youth

- **Photo scavenger hunt:** last week of February
- **Amplify Jesus: Sunday night worship....**is a 6-week series of Lent Worship Services for MCM Youth, starting **Feb 21, 8pm**. Hosted by Kathy Giesbrecht these half hour services will include: special guests sharing about Jesus, songs led by Mackenzie Hildebrand, art and prayer. We are hoping to create a space for spiritual encouragement and connection. Contact Kgiesbrecht@mennochurch.mb.ca for Zoom Link.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Feb 21, [Sunday] at 1pm – ABC Annual General Meeting via ZOOM.** The link is listed under Agenda in the Report book.
- **Tuesday morning coffee** – join us at 10am via ZOOM.
- **Returning to in-person worship:** The COVID task force would like your feedback on whether or not you plan to attend in person worship in the near future? And would you prefer to come on a rotation basis (every other week or so) or have 2 worship services on Sunday morning (and would you prefer the early service at 9 am or a later one closer to 10:30 or 11am)? These numbers will help us in deciding what format to go with. Please email Pastor Virginia or Pastor Mark or call Susan at the church office.
- **Personnel** Commission has reviewed the current Covid restrictions and continues to affirm the pastoral staff to work from home during critical code red. You are welcome to be in touch by phone or email. While the pastor's hours vary slightly, they are **8:30am - 4:30pm Tuesday to Friday**. Susan will be in the office so you are also welcome to call the church. Susan's hours are **9-12** and **1-3 Tuesday-Friday**. The facility will be closed to visitors during the code red period. To contact the staff at their home please use the following phone numbers. You are welcome to call during office hours or anytime needed during an emergency.
Mark - 1.204.771.3406
Virginia - 204.304.6119
Josh - 1.402.631.3481 or 1.204.502.1991
Amanda - 204.324.6719

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mennonite Church Manitoba – mennochurch.mb.ca 204-896-1616

- **Mar 6, 9am-12 noon online** - Learn about your regional and nationwide ministries at the **2021 Mennonite Church Manitoba Annual Gathering**. Delegates should register through their church office. Non-delegates are welcome, but we're asking you to register on the MCM website or by calling the MCM Office. 204-896-1616 or mennochurch.mb.ca .
- **Camps with Meaning** Summer Staff applications are on the CwM website. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org and follow the Summer links.

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Take the sting out** of winter's chill by joining the Great Winter Warm-up from the comfort of your home. Throughout February, we're celebrating all things comforters - from the compassionate people who donate blankets to the families who receive them. Learn how you can participate at mccmb.ca/GreatWinterWarmup.
- **For MCC, peace** is what we do. Peace means something different to each person. Help us answer the question "What is peace?" by sharing what peace means to you – it can be an idea, a poem, a memory or just

a few words. We're collecting submissions for a creative art piece. You can contribute at mccmb.ca/what-is-peace.

- **Are you passionate about peace?** MCC is looking for an outgoing person to coordinate peacebuilding and advocacy activities in Manitoba. The Coordinator position is part-time and based in Winnipeg. Learn more at mccmb.ca/openings.

Mennonite Disaster Service - ecomunications@mds.mennonite.net

- The February edition of *On the Level* is now available from MDS. In our current issue: learn about a new renovation project, part of a mission to bring affordable housing to Waterloo Region; and the Spirit of MDS Fund is offering another round of funding for congregations. Plus, we're now offering *Behind the Hammer*, our quarterly publication showcasing our volunteers and their inspiring stories, in a digital version giving you access via your phone, tablet or desktop.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3bgbp9v>

Mennonite Collegiate Institute – mciblues.net

- **Considering MCI for the 2021-22 school year?** New students who apply by March 15th will share in \$25,000 of available tuition support. One lucky applicant will also receive their first year of tuition FREE! Visit: www.mciblues.net/admissions/new-student-incentive/ or contact our Student Recruitment Associate, Sophie Gerbrandt, at sophiegerbrandt@mciblues.net

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **Feb 24, 4pm** - CMU | **Virtual Open House**. Be part of a virtual CMU campus tour, hear from faculty and present students, and take the opportunity to ask all the questions you have about university studies at CMU. Students, parents, guidance counsellors and teachers welcome! A recording of this open house will be made available to those who sign up, but who are unable to make it at **the scheduled time**.
- **Feb 24, 7-8:30pm** - **Face2Face | Who Cares? The elderly among us...** A global pandemic is shining a light on our assumptions about the elderly among us. COVID-19 has exposed cracks in our systems of care, and shed light on our understandings of aging, revealing how we value older adults in our communities. How might we listen anew to the voice and resilience of older adults, and how could such listening reshape our imagination and understanding? Join us on Zoom for a conversation with a Personal Care Home Exec., and seniors, including an Indigenous Elder.
- **CMU's Xplore 55+** Enrichment program offers courses exploring dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it – No exams or assignments. 8 online courses offered on Wednesday mornings, March 3 – April 7 and include options in Christian worship, biblical spirituality, Christian faith and Indigenous spirituality, the Book of Revelation, Old Testament Prophets, the power of music, Abrahamic faiths in dialogue, and the witness of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Go to www.cmu.ca/xplore for information and to register.