

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, January 17, 2021

Worship Service

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE

January 17, 2021

*Then he sent out a dove to see if the waters on all of the
fertile land had subsided. ~ Genesis 8:8*

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **All things bright and beautiful HWB 156**

Call to Worship and Prayer

LISTENING

Music **I saw a tree by the riverside STS 116**

Children's Story

Scripture **Genesis 7: 6-16; 8: 6-19**

Sermon **"The Wisdom of Birds"**

RESPONDING

Music **Morning has broken**

Prayer for the Church and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **For the Journey**

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Worship Leader: Ken Doell

Children's Story: Jolene Friesen-Stoesz

Music: Recorded Artists

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

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Anne Braun, Elizabeth Doell, Helen Schulz, Waldo Schulz at Altona Health Centre; Anne Kehler at Notre Dame de Lourdes Hospital. Doreen Sawatzky at St. Boniface Hospital.
- ~ **Condolences** to Elizabeth Doell, family and extended family, at the passing away, on January 2, of her sister Erna Reimer of Winnipeg.
- ~ **Address changes:**
 - ~ Katherine Friesen has moved to Apt 1, the Gardens On Tenth Manor.
 - ~ Lori Driedger has moved to: 302-140 10th Ave NE [G.O.T.].
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada:**

This month pray for Song Kang-ho, founder of Frontiers (a Christian-based peace organization), who is appealing a two-year sentence for trespassing onto a military base during a peaceful protest. Pray for Witness workers Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park as they support and provide study resources for the Christian peace community in South Korea.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Consider the Birds of the Air a 5-week sermon series on birds of the Bible. We will dive deeper and fly higher into the meaning and symbolism behind several images/stories of birds included in our scriptures.

- Jan 24 - His eye is on the Sparrow. Matt 6: 25-27
- Jan 31 - A mother Hen gathering her brood. Matt 23: 37
- Feb 7 - On Eagles Wings. Isaiah 40: 28-31, Rev 4-5
- Feb 14 - TBD

Donations for the church can be dropped off at Don and Grace Fehr's home at **85 Martin Crescent**. Place your donation in the designated box and then ring the doorbell. PLEASE NOTE THEIR NEW ADDRESS, and don't leave your donation at Don and Grace's former residence.

2021 Donation Envelopes can be picked up from the church. Ring the doorbell and Susan will meet you at the door.

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona 117 2ND Street NW Altona, MB R0G 0B1
Web Page Address: abchurchcommunity.ca Office: 324-6717 E-mail: office@abchurch.ca
Worship Services available online at: abchurch.libsyn.com Facebook: ABC community
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990 cell 1-204-771-3406 markt@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 virginiagr@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor of Youth Min: Josh Janzen, 204-502-1991, cell 1-402-631-3481 joshi@abchurch.ca
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 amandaw@abchurch.ca

FROM the PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

There are many symbols from the Bible that we use on a regular basis because they offer such rich meaning and depth to our faith. For the next several weeks we are going to explore the image and symbol of birds in our Bible.

Birds were a part of the everyday life of the biblical writers, and they were an image that people could understand in both it's concrete and elusive qualities. It is amazing how many of our biblical stories actually include birds. Besides the passages that we will be focusing on in our worship services birds also appear in the story of:

- the Israelites in the desert, along with their mana they had quail to eat every day (Exodus 16).
- Elijah sitting by a stream of water, ravens brought him food in the morning and evening (1 Kings 17).
- Peter's betrayal, a rooster reminds him of what Jesus foretold (Matt 26:74-75).
- Jesus baptism, a dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus (Mark 1).
- Jesus' parents presenting him at the temple, they bring a pair of turtle doves as their sacrifice. (Luke 2:23-24)

In the comings weeks as we explore the stories on birds from our Bible's, I invite you to read these and other stories and reflect on the role and meaning of the birds and animals present.

Jr Youth

- Jan 19, 7pm – family sugar cookie baking contest! See email for info!

Sr Youth

- Jan 22, 7pm – family sugar cookie baking contest! See email for info!

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **As pastors**, we are inviting people of all ages to talk with us about baptism. If you are experiencing God's call to baptism, are wondering if the time is now, or have already been baptized and desire to explore our faith anew, let's talk. The first step is a conversation. Please do not hesitate to be in touch! – Mark, Virginia, Josh.
- **Tuesday morning coffee** has resumed – join us at 10am via ZOOM.
- **The pastors** are still working from home during critical code red. You are welcome to be in touch by phone or email. Susan will be in the office so you are also welcome to call the church. The facility will be closed to visitors during the critical code red period.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Jan 18, 7:30pm** - Winnipeg Livestream Celebration for the **Week of Prayer 2021** uploaded from Saint John XXIII Church, Winnipeg, MB. Livestreaming and music to begin at approximately 7:20pm. For more information and for the YouTube livestream link go to www.johnxxiii.ca or go directly to YouTube <https://youtu.be/5w9wp6x8Amg>

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **Jan 20, 4pm** - CMU's next Wednesday Webinar, Faith Matters, will explore how faith is woven within the life of CMU in classes, dorms and broader student experiences. Join this conversation about why reflecting spiritually and ethically on the world's big challenges matters – and how in the process you will shape your character and conviction for change. Wednesday, (CST). Register at www.cmu.ca/webinar.
- **"So What?"** is CMU's NEW monthly podcast drawing out key ideas from public events at CMU. Host Jonas Cornelsen from Calgary (CMU '16) guides you through these conversations and events by asking 'So What?'. The first Podcast Episode, entitled 'Pandemic' can be found wherever you get your Podcasts, or at www.cmu.ca/podcast. Expect a new podcast episode at the beginning of every month.
- **Sunday@CMU** is a weekly 15-minute radio program featuring biblical meditations from current and emeritus professors, alumni or students, music from CMU ensembles, and interviews with faculty, staff, students, and alumni. This month Sunday@CMU features a sermon series on Paul's letter to the Colossians from Cheryl Braun, former principal at Mennonite Collegiate Institute in Gretna and pastor at Glenlea Mennonite Church – and a present student in CMU's Graduate School of Theology and Ministry. Listen at <https://media.cmu.ca/cat/audio/sundayatcmu>

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

- **MCM** invites applications for two positions: Financial Services Assistant (.75 FTE) and Administrative Assistant (0.5 FTE) to start ca. Feb 1, 2021. These job descriptions are posted on the MCM site. Submit application letter and resume to Peter Rempel, Interim Administrator, at office@mennochurch.mb.ca by Jan 20 (extended deadline).

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Threads**, an MCC Manitoba radio show, airs at 8:45am every 4th Sunday of the month on CFAM 950. Visit mccmb.ca/Threads for past episodes.
- **Effective** April 1, 2021, MCC Canada will relocate its central material resources warehouse from Plum Coulee, MB, to New Hamburg, Ontario. This transition will help facilitate the more rapid distribution of relief supplies – such as comforters, relief kits and canned meat – by reducing the number of Canadian shipping sites and locating the central warehouse closer to an international port. With the relocation of MCC Canada's central warehouse operations, the Plum Coulee location will be closing its doors on June 30, 2021. More info at visit bit.ly/MCC-relocates.

Mennonite Disaster Service - ecomunications@mds.mennonite.net