

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH OF ALTONA

March 15, 2020

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 am

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck **Worship Leader:** Herman Kuhl
Music: Worship Team **Scripture Reader:** Nicholas Funk
Dramatization: Amanda Wiens & Dawson Wiens
Children's Story: Jolene Friesen-Stoesz

“ For as a belt is bound around the waist, so I bound all the people of Israel and all the people of Judah to me, declares the Lord, to be my people for my renown and praise and honor. But they have not listened.”

~ *Jeremiah 13:11*

Prelude
Announcements

We Gather to Praise God

Gathering music **Heart of Worship**
Call to Worship and Prayer
Hymns **Same Power**
 How deep the Father's Love

God Speaks to Us

Children's story **Down to the River to pray**
Prayer for the Offering
Offering **Here I am Lord**
God and Jeremiah have a talk
Scripture Reading Jeremiah 13:1-11.
Sermon **“Clinging to God like underwear ”**

We Respond to God's Word

Prayer of confession
Hymn **Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us HWB 352**
Words of Assurance
Prayer for the Church and the World

God sends us into the World

God's sending words
Hymn **The River is here**

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

~ **Please join in prayer** for the Community Meal ministry. This new initiative is set to begin on March 28. Please pray that God will guide the Community Meal Steering Committee in making final preparations and that God will work through this ministry.

~ **Mennonite Church Canada:**

International Witness... Coronavirus affects daily life of Witness workers in South Korea. In the last week the rise of coronavirus in South Korea has affected millions of lives.

Prayer: Please pray for public health authorities in South Korea as they deal with the spread of the virus.

News from our partners

Praise God that Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission's International Central Council has decided to integrate the Angola Mennonite Churches into AIMM. Pray for the delegation that is preparing to visit Angola to deliver this news and for the Angolan church leaders who will receive it.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

March 22. Broken Covenant, Exile, and Judgement: Jeremiah 11:1-13.

Speaker: Josh Janzen

March 29. Living in Exile: Jeremiah 29:1-23. Speaker: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

April 5. A New Covenant: Jeremiah 31:27-40: Speaker: Amanda Wiens

From the Pastor – Josh Janzen

“Sun and soil, patient toil. Winds and rains caressed it; Christ often blessed it. Be grateful when you touch bread.” These words are from sharing of bread in “A Mealtime Liturgy”. I found them fitting for youth group Sunday evening, March 8 as the youth baked bread. Baking can be fun, chaotic, relaxing, and many other things all at once. I talked with the youth about how baking bread is a worshipful experience, and how it can be used to bless others. As the dough was rising, we reflected Genesis 18:1-8, where three angels visited an unaware Abraham. He immediately jumped up into hospitality mode and served the guests without question. In some Christian traditions, this story is about the Triune God visiting Abraham. What if we lived out faith in hospitality? Treating every guest as if God has come near to visit us? In Luke 24 on the road to Emmaus, the risen Christ is revealed to the disciples when they break bread together. So be grateful when you touch bread.

Jr & Sr Youth

- **Mar. 15, 7-9pm.**

Ventures – Wednesdays 7-8:15pm

- **Girls** – Be-you-tiful craft
- **Boys** –

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

Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990/cell 1-204-771-3406 marktd@abchurch.ca

Asst Pastor & Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 amandaw@abchurch.ca

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry: Josh Janzen, 324-6717, 1-402-631-3481 joshi@abchurch.ca

Welcome to the Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona



A note about COVID – 19

As of bulletin printing, there are three presumptive cases of COVID – 19 in Manitoba. We now recognize the real possibility that COVID – 19 comes to Altona. As a Church we want to ensure that our gatherings are not a place where this virus spreads. Here are some things to keep in mind:

- Greet people with a smile, wave, or nod. Avoid greeting people with handshakes, hugs or other forms of physical contact.
- Worship at home if you are not feeling well. Recordings of our services are available on the church website.
- Wash hands thoroughly and regularly. Use the hand sanitizer in the foyer.
- If you have flu-like symptoms contact your doctor or clinic about testing and treatment.
- Love your neighbour. Look out for people who may be significantly affected by this situation.

This is a time when it is natural for us to live in fear and anxiety.

This notice is not to incite fear or panic, but to encourage us to act cautiously and responsibly.

“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13:13)

Sunday, March 15, 2020

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Pastor Josh** is taking his quarterly weekend off this weekend. He will return to the office on Tuesday March 17.
- **Beginning March 30, Pastor Josh** will be taking a 4 week unpaid leave of absence. This was an arrangement that the Personnel Commission negotiated with Josh prior to his beginning ministry in our congregation. During this time, Josh will be returning to Nebraska for his and Steph's wedding which is April 11 and attending to matters related to immigration and moving.
- **If you would like to purchase** a copy of the new Voices Together hymnal for your personal use at the cost of approx. \$30.00 please talk to Amanda before March 22nd.
- **Altona's free Community Meal begins March 28, 5-6:30pm at Altona Senior Centre.** This is a free meal and everyone is invited. Because we are not sure what to expect for the first meal, we are asking that you notify the church office in advance if you plan to attend

55 Plus Dinner & Evening – Friday, March 20, 5:30 p.m.

Guest: Joanna Hiebert Bergen (MCC)

Feature: 'The Struggle for Peace in Palestine & Israel'

Cost: \$18.00/person (New price) CATERED BY: New Style Catering

Please call or email the Church Office for reservations by Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **March 26, 3-7pm** - Canadian Blood Services Community Donor Clinic at Rhineland Pioneer Center, 227 - 10th Ave NW, Altona
- **Mar. 27, 6:30pm.** Far East Broadcasting's Friendship Dinner at South Park MB Church, Altona. Dinner is complimentary, Reservations are required. Call 204-324-5388, 204-324-8358, or 204324-6072 before March 23rd. See poster in foyer.

Mennonite Church Manitoba www.mennochurch.mb.ca 896-1616

- **Despite the snow, summer will arrive, and with it summer camp!** We can't do it without some staff, though. Younger folks – staff applications are due at the end of this month. Come be part of an amazing community and stretch yourself. Also looks great on your resume! Older folks – please consider volunteering a week of your time to help in the kitchen or maintenance, as a health officer or camp pastor. The camp community needs you, too. Bring a friend for even more fun! Visit www.campswithmeaning.org/summer/camp-staff

- **Mar. 17 & April 30, 9am.–3pm. Come enjoy a "Day Away" at Assiniboia Camp and Retreat Centre.** Lunch, hiking and outdoor activities, music, sit by the fireplace and visit, "Knipsbrat and other table games. Cost: \$20.00. To reserve a spot, call Linda at 204-864-2159 ext. 104 or Elizabeth at 204-895-2267

Canadian Mennonite University – www.cmu.ca See foyer poster

- **March 15, 2pm.** (today) Mennonite Community Orchestra Concert, MBCI, Jubilee Place 183 Talbot (MBCI). Admission by donation. See www.cmu.ca/events
- **March 15, 7pm.** Vespers Worship Service incorporating scripture, prayer, hymns, choral music, and congregational song. Sunday, Laudamus Auditorium.
- **March 19, 11am. and 7pm.** 2020 Friesen Lectures with Dr. Piet Visser, CMU Chapel, cmu.ca/events/friesenlectures
- **Mar 20, 7:30p.m.** *Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence 2*, OPENING, MHCGallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd. Powerful exhibition featuring 25 artists. March 20-May 2.
- **March 31, 10am.-3pm.** CMU Open House for prospective students and their parents, cmu.ca/openhouse
- **April 3, 7pm.** Spring@CMU, a fundraising evening in support of CMU, cmu.ca/springatcmu

Mennonite Collegiate Institute – info@mciblues.net 327-5891

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – Manitoba@mccmb.ca

- Come hear from Maxym Oliferovski about MCC's current work with families displaced by conflict in eastern Ukraine.
Mar.17, 10a.m. at MCC Manitoba, 134 Plaza Dr. Winnipeg,
Mar 18, 7-8:30pm. at 1 Portage Avenue Church, 420 Portage Ave.

Mennonite Church Canada

- **MC Canada's** Indigenous-Settler Relations (ISR) is organizing a bus journey to take 50 Indigenous and settler persons to this year's **NAIITS** gathering in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, June 4-6, 2020. Would you like to join us? NAIITS is a Christian Indigenous Learning Community that hosts theological gatherings intended for pastors and activists, young and old. ISR wants to bring a diverse group of friends from across our nationwide church to attend this event that will explore "Conversations on Health and Wholeness." The bus ride from Winnipeg is free, registration is covered, and we're looking to crash at a local church (dorm rooms are an option, but at your own expense). If interested, please e-mail Steve Heinrichs for more details (sheinrichs@mennonitechurch.ca).

Mennonite Disaster Service

[eCommunications@mds.mennonite.net]