

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



*Sunday, May 1, 2022
ABC Ignite!*

*Bergthaler Mennonite Church of
Altona*

May 1, 2022, 9:30 am

‘But what about you?’ He asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.’

Here is a rough schedule for ABC ignite:

9:30: Getting to know one another (Don’t come late and try to avoid this part!)

10:00: Brunch

10:45: Worship (including singing, puppet show, sharing time, and meditation based on Matthew 16:13-20)

11:15: Conversation and discernment (childcare provided)

12:30: Closing prayer

This morning’s brunch is a free-will fundraiser for ABC’s youth as they prepare to attend a nation-wide Mennonite Church Canada youth gathering in Alberta this summer. Please make cheques payable to the church designated “youth fundraiser”

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Bernard Wiebe and Anne Dueck at the Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Change of address:** Agatha Kehler has moved to the Gardens on Tenth apartments room #208.
- ~ **Waldo Schulz** from our church family passed away April 26. We are invited to join in gratitude for his life and pray for his wife Helen, family and extended family. Funeral services will be at ABC on Wednesday May 4 at 11 am.
- ~ **Today we are** welcoming Bonnie Friesen into our congregation through transfer of membership.
- ~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**
 - Leona Braun May 1
 - Anne Froese May 6
 - Wilf Hiebert May 7
 - Jake Sawatzky May 7

WORSHIP CALENDAR

- May 1:** ABC Ignite! 9:30 – Church basement
- May 8:** Speaker – Pastor Josh
- May 15:** Speaker – Pastor Virginia
- May 22:** Speaker – Pastor Mark
- May 29:** Guest speaker – Louis Sawatzky

Last Sunday, my resignation as associate pastor of youth ministry was announced. That has been hard news to share, because Steph and I truly love this church and this community. Missing our family is something that we have struggled with, and after much prayer and discernment earlier this year, we decided that we needed to explore moving closer to home. In that process, a ministry opportunity came up at a Mennonite church in Steph's hometown of Beatrice, Nebraska. We felt God's calling and I accepted the invitation to candidate for the position. My time here at ABC will come to an end near the end of August. I am so grateful for the support and affirmation you as the church have given me as a pastor. Steph and I both have felt your love and care for us over these difficult years of the pandemic and we will carry that love and care with us for the rest of our lives.

-Josh Janzen

FROM THE PASTOR: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Early in the pandemic (when it still seemed like this would all be a several month affair) I was reflecting on how the pandemic would change us as a church. At the time I predicted that we would be more casual, creative, and less bound to the ways that we have always done things. This Sunday illustrates that my hunch has come to pass in some respects. It is hard to imagine that prior to the pandemic we would switch our Sunday morning worship service into an event like today's. After the pandemic, this event seems like just what we need and I'm excited for it!

Sharing a meal, worship, and discernment as a community brings us closer to how the early church gathered and shared life together. In truth, the scripture offers the church less details and concrete prescriptions and more metaphors and images. We are salt, light, body of Christ, household of God, temple of the Holy Spirit, and way, to name a few. As we break bread (or pancakes), praise God, and discern together, the Holy Spirit will be at work among us as we grow in the likeness of Christ.

Sr Youth and Jr Youth:

Sr. Youth – Tuesday May 3, 7 pm, Lost and Found bible study week 2
Jr. Youth – Wednesday May 4, 7 pm, Lost and Found bible study week 2

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Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990 cell 1-204-771-3406 marktd@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 joshj@abchurch.ca Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 amandaw@abchurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On May 15, we will be having a lunch after the worship service in honour of our departing church staff: Don Fehr, Susan Dueck, and Amanda Wiens. We encourage everyone to recognize their contributions by coming to the meal.

If anyone is interested in the old fridge in South Wing, please let Cheryl or Jolene know.

Finance and Maintenance is excited to announce the appointment of Laurie Enns as ABC treasurer. Laurie will officially begin her role June 1st. Don and Laurie have already been in regular discussion regarding the responsibilities and transition. We are also looking forward to recognizing Don's contribution on May 15. **Welcome Laurie and thank you Don!**

May and beyond: Masks are optional. We continue to request that if you are experiencing Covid symptoms that you worship from home.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The 21st annual CMU Gold Classic will take place on June 15 at Bridges Golf Course. To register or for sponsorship opportunities, visit cmu.ca/golf **Want to support the work of MCC** in a hands-on way? MCC Plum Coulee Warehouse is looking for volunteers! We need people with various skillsets for tasks involving in creating comforters (sewing, pinning, sandwiching) and preparing for shipping (bailing, packaging). Contact Gord Letkeman for more information, 204.829.3005 or gordletkeman@mccmb.ca

MCM Delegates for MC Canada Gathering 2022: Mennonite Church Manitoba is looking for delegates to attend the MC Canada Gathering in Edmonton, July 29-August 1. We need 11 general delegates to represent MCM at delegate sessions and 3 Young Leaders Experience participants (age 17-21) to take part in a delegate program geared for them. Registration, accommodation and travel costs will be covered for them. Please see www.mennochurch.mb.ca/news for more info and contact office@mennochurch.mb.ca if you are interested.

Mennonite Church Canada transitions Indigenous-Settler Relations program. Mennonite Church Canada is transitioning its Indigenous-Settler Relations (ISR) program to the five regional churches. The nationwide ISR staff position has been reduced to 0.5 FTE. Steve Heinrichs, who was ISR director for over ten years, is no longer in this role. Moving forward, the ISR position at Mennonite Church Canada will focus on information sharing and collaboration between regional church ISR working

Unique Opportunities to Serve at Camp! **Camps with Meaning**

Camp Health Officer

Summer camps are always in need of "health officers" in order to ensure that we are providing the safest program possible...as well as to meet insurance and Manitoba Camping Association standards. Camps with Meaning welcomes and invites any Physician, RN, LPN or Paramedic who is licensed to work in Manitoba to come and serve at camp for a week or more. This position is important as we cannot run camp without a Health Officer present. *NOTE: Health Officers are required to have a certain amount of practice hours...a week at camp can provide you with 37.5 of these hours. Simply indicate that you need these hours to be verified by us!

Kitchen Helpers/Workers

"Camp food" is redefined at Camps with Meaning. It's camper friendly and quite good! Each camp has a qualified Food Services Coordinator who plans the menu and organizes the work. We welcome and invite kitchen helpers and the occasional Head Cook to come, prepare and serve the camp...and the food!

Camp Pastor

We give our youth and young adults a huge task when we commission them to carry out the camp program...but we never leave them alone. We welcome individuals to walk alongside them and support them! You are invited to come for one week or two (or more!) to guide the staff with daily devotions, prayer support, and to be involved in the program and get to know the staff! Camp pastors can be ordained individuals or others with gifts to serve in this capacity!

Maintenance Workers

We cannot run camp without adequate facilities! Our camp sites have beautiful grounds, buildings and a variety of equipment. These physical parts of camp need care, pruning, painting, cleaning, replacing...and we build new things from time to time. People with gifts in these areas are welcomed and invited to come take care of camp! Supervision and tools are provided.

CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCHES:

Can we get YOUR church to sponsor a week at camp...and provide the support staff (or a combination of the support staff) for a week of camp?! These support staff include a camp pastor, kitchen and maintenance help, and a health officer. Can your small group do it? Or can you provide the leadership to guide other members of the congregation? That particular week will be dedicated to your church! It would be neat to see how

something like this could inspire congregations to serve at camp in this way! The support staff that come to serve at camp make camp possible!!