

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, November 21, 2021

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE

November 21, 2021 10:30 A.M.

"Looking to Jesus"

~ Hebrews 12:2a

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Song **Shall we gather at the river** HWB 615

Call to Worship and Prayer

Song **My hope is built on nothing less** HWB 343

Children's Story

REMEMBERING

Remembering Our Loved Ones

Prayer of Remembrance

Scripture **Hebrew 12: 1-2; Revelation 7: 9-12**

Meditation **"Being a storied people"**

RESPONDING

Song **Children of the heavenly Father** HWB 616

Prayer for the Offering, the Church and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Sending Song **Be still and know that I am God**

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert **Worship Leader:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck
Scripture: Benjamin Rempel **Music:** Margaret Klassen, Ang Loeppky, Flying Free
Children's Story: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Our worship service will be live-streamed Sunday morning at 10:30am and is available on the church website at [abchurchcommunity.ca]. If using a handheld device [phone/tablet] you may get a message that says "*video unavailable*", but if you click on the line "watch this video on YouTube" it will reload and play for you.

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Hilda Wiebe, Harold Sawatzky, and Helen Schulz at Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Our condolences to** Al & Tena Giesbrecht at the passing away, on Nov 9, of Tena's brother, Dave Buhler of Morris.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
Please pray: As we approach Nov 29, the United Nations Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, please pray for all living in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem. In addition to the ill economic and health effects of the pandemic, Palestinians continue to suffer under Israel's military occupation of their lands through home evictions, demolition of homes and orchards, incarceration of children as young as 12 and the killing and injuring of protesters. Please pray that Israeli leaders respect rights and freedoms for all. Consider giving fair-trade Palestinian products this Christmas. For more info, visit <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/pin>.

Today is Memorial Sunday. We remember and honour people from our church community who have died in the past year.

We Remember

*Anne Wiebe
Ruth Klassen
Henrietta Braun
Helen Braun
Willie Voth
Jake G. Dueck
Iris Mary Billay-Klippenstein
Rick Friesen
Henrietta Schroeder
Henry G. Thiessen
Nora Hildebrant*

FROM the PASTOR - Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Our Advent and Christmas sermon series this year will be an introduction to Jesus we're calling "Jesus, nice to meet you".

I've felt that too often as preachers we assume previous knowledge or understanding when we preach. We use language or concepts that are only accessible if you are already familiar with the biblical story or always been part of the church. As pastors, we are challenging ourselves in this series to preach also for people who may have no familiarity with the story of Jesus. What do we need to know about Jesus if we are meeting him for the first time? For people who have known Jesus for a long time and studied the scriptures, returning to the basics from time to time is important as well.

If you have family or friends who have expressed interest about faith, spirituality, the church, or Jesus himself, this would be a great time to invite them to participate in our worship services and learn more about Jesus.

Nov 28: When and where did Jesus live? What was the context of Jesus' life and time?

Dec 5: What did Jesus teach? What was the essence of his message?

Dec 12: What did Jesus do? And what did it accomplish? What was it about?

Dec 19: Why did Jesus encounter opposition to his message and work?

Dec 26: Baby Jesus.

Jan 2: 4 gospels, 1 Jesus. How we learn about Jesus.

Jan 9: Who is Jesus?

Sr Youth

- **Nov 23 [Tues] – NO Youth this week, see you on Nov 30!**

Jr Youth

- **Nov 24 [Wed] – NO Youth this week, see you on Dec 1!**

Ventures: [Wednesdays]

- **Girls Ventures 7-8:15pm** - Carnival
- **Boys Ventures 7-8:15pm** - Carnival

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Worship Services available online at: abchurchcommunity.ca Facebook: ABC community
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

- **The Review Surveys** for Pastor Mark **are due today.**
Be prepared to share your vote in the following ways: by coming to the church office for advance voting, Tuesday-Friday Nov 23-26, 9am to 3pm; by calling the office to vote, Tuesday to Friday, Nov 23-26, 9am to 3pm at 324-6717, or by voting at the Fall meeting on Sunday, Nov 28 at 1pm.
- **Nov 28 [Next Sunday] at 1pm** will be our **Fall Congregational meeting.** This meeting will take place by ZOOM. A ZOOM link will be sent with the bulletin on Friday.
- **Pastor Josh** is on vacation Nov 19-26.
- **We request that people wear masks throughout the worship service.** Thank you for doing your part to ensure we follow public health guidelines.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Nov 24, 4-7pm – Drive-thru Taco Fundraiser** to support Youth for Christ at the Rhineland Pioneer Centre. By donation.
- **The Rhineland Empty Stocking Fund** is now accepting referrals for Christmas Hampers. Referrals can be called in to 204-324-7167. When calling in referrals please have the following information: name of referral, number of children in the family with age and gender of child, physical address, mailing address and phone number. Deadline for referrals is noon on Dec 10. Note: the referrals must live in the R.M. of Rhineland. Due to current social distancing, we will again not require any volunteers for wrapping/packing or delivery. Many people have reached out with a helping hand over the years with the RESF, and we sincerely "Thank You". If you would like to be a part of this mission, donations can be hand delivered to Pembina Valley Pharmacy, Access Credit Union [Gretna, Altona or Plum Coulee] or by mailing the donation to Rhineland Empty Stocking Fund, Box 2255, Altona, MB R0G 0B0.

Mennonite Church Canada – office@mennonitechurchcanada.ca

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

- **Nov 29 is United Nations Day of Solidarity** with the **Palestinian People.** Join the MCMPIN* along with others including folks from the Palestinian and Jewish communities at Vimy Ridge Park, Winnipeg, on Nov 28, 12 til 1:30pm. Canada Stand Up for Palestinian Children's Rights. We are asking the Canadian Government to appoint a Special Envoy to monitor and report on the situation of Palestinian children living in occupied Palestine pertaining to the standards of international law and UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, signed by both Israel and Canada. (*MCM Palestine-Israel Network)
- **Break the Bank-uet 2.** Camps with Meaning Online Fundraising Event. Join camp staff for music, updates, a celebration of Summer

2021 ministry, and of course, breaking the bank. Watch the video here: www.campswithmeaning.org/banquet

- **Dec 4, 1-4pm - Prepare the Way! Advent Afternoon.** You are invited to bring your friends and family to Camp Assiniboia for an afternoon of harp music, singing, drama, and more.
- **MC Manitoba** invites applications for the full-time "Director of Mission Engagement" position. Visit www.mennochurch.mb.ca/get-involved
- **Camps with Meaning** invites applications for a permanent Head of Maintenance position at Camp Assiniboia. [Job description on the Camps with Meaning website](#) www.campswithmeaning.org .

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **Consider CMU:** A small university making a big difference! Sign up for our Nov 26 campus visit day! Visit cmu.ca/experience . Apply for fall 2022 classes before Nov 30 and your application fee is waived!
- **Dec 1, 6pm** - Business at CMU information webinar. Learn how CMU's Bachelor of Bus. Admin. program prepares students for careers in business and non-profit organizations. To register visit cmu.ca/webinar.
- **CommonWord** Christmas Sale runs Nov 29 to Dec 3. Save on fair-trade and specialty food and coffee products, unique seasonal books, and resources. For hours and more gift ideas, visit commonword.ca.
- **Book Launches:**
Dec 2, 7pm - Benchmark: Countering COVID through Painting and Poetry by Join Susan Moore and Mary Wiebe. Visit commonword.ca/go/2653 to register and for livestream details.
Dec 9, 7pm – Suffering the Truth: Occasional Sermons and Reflections by Chris Huebner – www.commonword.ca/go/2659

MCC Manitoba - manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Nov 26-28,** - Digital screenings - Theatre of the Beat invites you to *Forgiven/Forgotten*. This emotionally driven piece follows the varying responses of a community that learns an ex-offender will be serving his parole in their midst. For more info and to attend click [here](#) or visit theatreofthebeat.ca/forgivenforgotten. You can also bring this production to your community for free thanks to the support of MCC. Contact cedric@theatreofthebeat.ca for details.
- **Are you** looking to shop differently this Christmas? Make your holidays sustainable and fun with *Twelve Tips for a Thrift Christmas*, available [here](#) or at thrift.mcc.org/christmas, and shop fair trade at Brandon Ten Thousand Village's website [here](#) or at villagesbrandon.ca.

Mennonite Disaster Service – mdscanada@mds.org

- The November edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: MDS Canada is monitoring the flooding in B.C., the Hay West program provides relief to farmers, the U.S. border reopens for volunteers coming from Canada, and you can learn more about our Annual Celebration in Sarasota, Florida in January. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3wWvLPE>