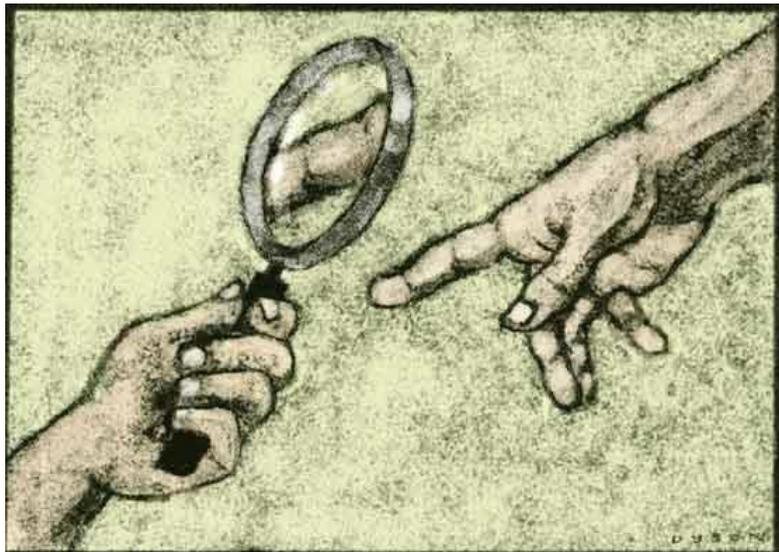


*Welcome to the  
Bergthaler Mennonite Church  
of Altona*



*Sunday, October 25, 2020*

*Worship Service 10:30 a.m.*

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona 117 2<sup>ND</sup> Street NW Altona, MB R0G 0B1  
Web Page Address: [abchurchcommunity.ca](http://abchurchcommunity.ca) Office: 324-6717 E-mail: [office@abchurch.ca](mailto:office@abchurch.ca)  
Worship Services available online at: [abchurch.libsyn.com](http://abchurch.libsyn.com) Facebook: ABC community  
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990/cell 1-204-771-3406 [marktd@abchurch.ca](mailto:marktd@abchurch.ca)  
Asst Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 [virginiagr@abchurch.ca](mailto:virginiagr@abchurch.ca)  
Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry: Josh Janzen, 324-6717, 1-402-631-3481 [joshj@abchurch.ca](mailto:joshj@abchurch.ca)  
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 [amandaw@abchurch.ca](mailto:amandaw@abchurch.ca)

**BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH OF ALTONA**

**October 25, 2020**

**WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 am**

**Sermon:** Josh Janzen  
**Worship Leader:** Virginia Gerbrandt Richert  
**Music:** ABC Ensemble  
**Children's Story:** Delores Enns

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

*John 3:16*

**GATHERING AND PRAISE**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Music **O Sing to the Lord STJ 12**

Call to Worship and Prayer

**LISTENING**

Moment in Mission Video / The Lord's Prayer

Music **Longing for light STJ 54**

Children's Story

Scripture **Genesis 1:26-31, 2:4-7**

Sermon **"Would you baptize an extraterrestrial?"**

**RESPONDING**

Music *Great is Thy faithfulness*

Sharing Time

Prayer for the Offering, the Church and the World

**SENDING**

Benediction

Music **The peace of the earth be with you STJ 77**

## **PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER**

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Waldo Schulz and Anne Kehler at Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **This Sunday in our "Moment in Mission"** we hear from Marty Falk at The Station / Altona Youth For Christ. You can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/HfsBPO-T6EM>
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada:** Partnership with Bethlehem Bible College. Praise God for the recent signing of an agreement between Mennonite Church Canada and the West Bank's Bethlehem Bible College (BBC) calling for people-to-people exchanges and mutual learning about the biblical call to peace and justice. Pray for BBC president Jack Sara, faculty and students as they resume classes during the pandemic, while also dealing with the hardships of living under Israeli military occupation.

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

If you missed any of the "Hopeful Answers to Hard Questions" series you can find them on our church website: [abchurchcommunity.ca](http://abchurchcommunity.ca)

### **From the Pastor:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck

This week I read the text of Treaty 1. I have witnessed many Treaty acknowledgements at events and even churches, but I had never read the text of the Treaty which, for most of my life, has granted me the opportunity to live where I do. Indigenous Nations and the British Crown negotiated and entered Treaty 1 at Lower Fort Garry in 1871. In this Treaty, Indigenous Nations agreed to "cede, release, surrender, and yield up to Her Majesty the Queen" the area comprising south central Manitoba including Winnipeg. In exchange the Crown was to provide land for Indigenous families and other provisions. The Treaty was signed in part "so that there may be peace and goodwill" between nations.

Reading Treaty 1 was a reminder for me to live with gratitude and humility instead of entitlement. My ancestors were able to escape the persecutions of Russia and settle on these prairies—and I am able to live here today—because of the Treaty relationship that first peoples were graciously willing to enter. As a Treaty partner, I have a responsibility to seek reconciliation and shalom.

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

- **Access to the livestreaming** on Sunday mornings will be available from the Altona Bergthaler Church website [[abchurchcommunity.ca](http://abchurchcommunity.ca)]. The live stream will begin at 10:30am.
- **Children's Bulletins** are available in the foyer for ages 3 plus, and 7 plus. The children's story video will be posted to the Church website.

### **Jr Youth**

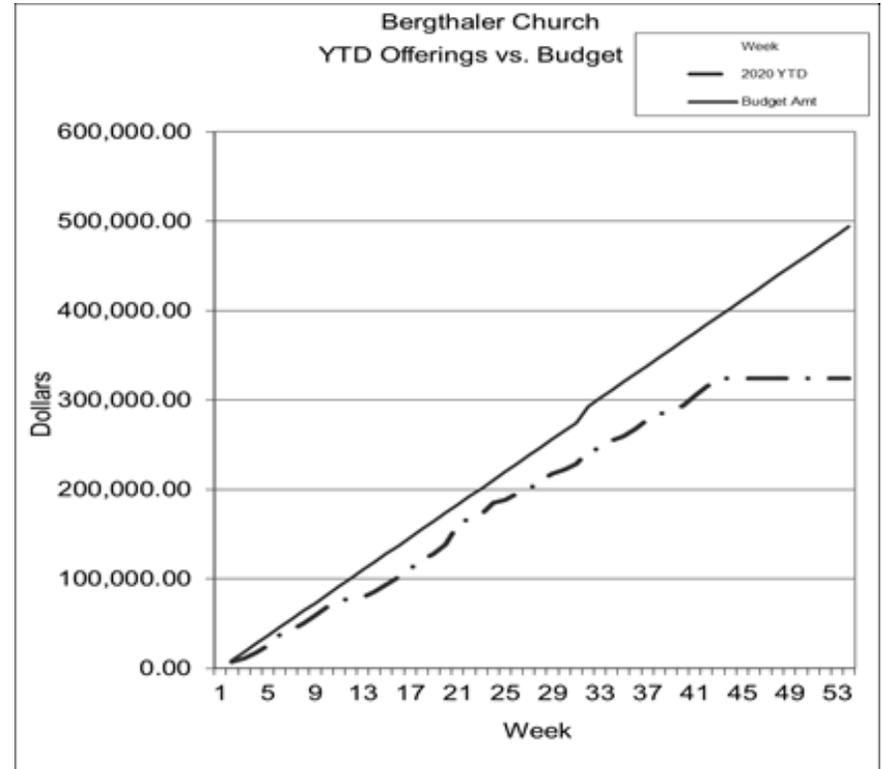
- **Oct 27, 7-9pm** – Squad up Bible study.

### **Sr Youth**

- **Oct 30, 7-9pm** – Squad up Bible study.

### **Ventures - Wednesdays 7:8:15pm.**

- **Girls: Oct 28 [Wed]** – Quiz Night.



We are currently at 82% of our giving budget.

This is a shortfall of \$69,000.

Thank you for your generosity during these difficult times.

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Coffee Time** - You are welcome to join the staff for coffee in the church library at 10am on Tuesdays.
- **Personnel Commission** is accepting applications for the part-time position of **church custodian**. Please e-mail Andrew Rempel at [andrewmempel@gmail.com](mailto:andrewmempel@gmail.com) for more information by Nov 1, 2020."
- **Nov 4, 4-6:30pm** – Fundraising Soup & Dessert 'Drive-thru' at the Altona Berghaler Church. By donation. [See insert]. **Volunteers are needed** to assist with serving/delivering orders on Nov 4. If you are willing to help call Harve Hildebrandt 324-7304.
- **Nov 23, 7pm** – **ABC Fall Meeting**.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mennonite Church Canada** – [office@mennochurch.ca](mailto:office@mennochurch.ca) 888-6781

**Mennonite Church Manitoba** – [mennochurch.mb.ca](http://mennochurch.mb.ca) 204-896-1616

- **Oct 25, 7pm** - Join us online for Camps with Meaning "**Break the Bank-uet**" Fundraising Celebration, with musical guests Steve Bell, Fred Penner, Kim Thiessen and Darryl Neustaedter Barg, and our camp staff. Enjoy visual updates from Camps Assiniboia & Koinonia. Donate to keep the ministry flame burning. [campswithmeaning.org/banquet](http://campswithmeaning.org/banquet)

### **Mennonite Disaster Service -**

- The October edition of *On the Level* is now available from MDS. In it you can read how homes built by MDS have weathered hurricanes in Louisiana and Texas, how MDS Canada builds its first house during the pandemic and that we're accepting volunteers for fall/winter projects.

**Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba** – [manitoba@mccmb.ca](mailto:manitoba@mccmb.ca)

- **Share** the message "to remember is to work for peace" by wearing a Remembrance Day MCC peace pin. To order, call 204-261-6381 or email [EmilyAnnDoerksen@mccmb.ca](mailto:EmilyAnnDoerksen@mccmb.ca). Visit [mccmb.ca/Peace-Buttons](http://mccmb.ca/Peace-Buttons).
- **Nov 21, 7pm** - Join us for a virtual Centennial Celebration, featuring storytelling, music, prayer & more. Visit [mccmb.ca/Events](http://mccmb.ca/Events) to register.
- **MCC** - At this time, visitors are welcome by appointment only at our offices located at 134 Plaza Drive, 159 Henderson Highway and Material Resource Centres in Winnipeg and Plum Coulee. To make an appointment with staff about a donation or to schedule a meeting, contact reception at 204-261-6381 (Plaza Dr).

**Canadian Mennonite University** – [cmu.ca](http://cmu.ca)

- **Oct 28, 6–7pm** - CMU Wednesday Webinar 'Choosing University: Student Stories'. Deciding where to attend university? This webinar will feature the experience of current students and their decision-making process, including the university and program they chose, the role of mentors and parents and more. Info/register [cmu.ca/webinar](http://cmu.ca/webinar).
- **Oct 30, 4–5pm** - CMU Virtual Open House will include a virtual tour of campus, live questions & answers with Admissions team members, faculty, and students. Open to students, parents, siblings, teachers, and school counsellors. For info/register go to [www.cmu.ca/experience](http://www.cmu.ca/experience)

## **[Re-] Introducing our Congregational Sharing & Prayer Time**

Just before Covid we began the practice of having congregational sharing and prayer on the last Sunday of each month. Today we will begin again in an effort to foster a deeper emphasis on prayer in our congregation and to encourage each other as a community in our lives of faith.

**The purpose of our time of sharing and prayer is: to provide a venue for people in our church to share prayer concerns and matters of praise, to support and uphold one another in prayer, and to build us more fully into the body of Christ.**

Here is some additional information to help us prepare for this: The sharing and prayer time will be facilitated by one of the pastors. Another pastor will move about the congregation and repeat into a microphone what people share (microphones will not be passed for COVID safety). The sharing time will be included in the live-stream and videos of our services and so it is important to remember that the sharing time is a public venue. When you share, please say your name and when sharing about someone else, ensure you have their permission to do so. If you have a prayer concern or matter of praise to share with the congregation but do not feel comfortable doing so, or will be worshiping from home, you may be in touch with the pastors the week before who will share on your behalf.

Here are examples of prayer and praise items to share:

- Major life events, milestones or transitions: retirement, graduation, birth of a child or grandchild, death of a loved one, new job etc...
- Health concerns you or a loved one has.
- A testimony of how you have experienced God recently.
- A concern that is on your heart for the community or the world.

In order for the sharing time to fulfill its purpose (see above), there are some things that should not be shared in this venue such as:

- Excessive details about your or someone else's health situation.
- Issues that will cause tensions or divisions in the congregation (there is an appropriate time for these conversations, but our sharing and prayer time is for upholding each other in unity and prayer).
- Items which are more appropriate for the announcement time such as upcoming events.

When we initiate new practices, it always takes time for us to become comfortable with them and appreciate how they shape us. We may not get this entirely right initially [or ever] but we will continue to discern and seek ways to grow as a community of disciples of Jesus. It is our hope that we may find encouragement in praying for each other and receiving prayer and that we grow in community and faithfulness to God through our congregational sharing and prayer.