

# Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

## Worship Service

October 30, 2022, 10:30 am

*Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ~John 18:36*

### GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome and announcements

Music **Come, now is the time to worship**

Call to worship and prayer

Music **Sovereign God**

Education Blessing and Appreciation

### LISTENING

Offering and prayer

Children's story

Scripture reading Scripture: 1 Peter 2:1-12

Sermon **Why eschatology and salvation matter  
For politics**

### RESPONDING

Music **Standing on the promises**

ABC Conversation with Jake Bergen

Prayer for the church and the world

### SENDING

Benediction

Music **This little light of mine**

**Sermon:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck

**Worship Leader:** Rose Tryon

**Children's story:** Caroline Neufeld

**Music:** Nick Rempel, Andrew Rempel, Stephanie Rempel and  
Joanna Ginter

### PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

~ **Hospitalized:** Anne Sawatzky, Mary Sawatsky and Shirley Schellenberg at the Altona Health Centre.

~ **Anne Braun** of our church family passed away October 27. We are invited to join in gratitude for her life and pray for her daughter Norma and Bruce Hiebert and extended family. The funeral service will be held here on Tuesday November 1 at 2 pm.

~ **Katie Krahn** has moved to 212 Rosewood at Eastview Place.

~ **International Witness:** Prayer for China Mennonite network. As deepening political changes take place in China, pray for the China Mennonite network as they find ways to be faithful in their context.

~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**

Jay Harder Oct. 30 Peter Schroeder Nov. 2

Reese Harder Oct. 30 Carol Bergman Nov. 4

Bill Bergman Oct. 31 Ang Loeppky Nov. 5

Benjamin Falk Oct. 31 Edwin Rempel Nov. 5

Jake Rempel Nov. 1

### "A THIRD WAY" SERMON SERIES

**September 18:** Exploring fundamentalism: its origins, development and problems. Speaker: Mark

**September 25:** Exploring secularism: its origins, development and problems. Speaker: Mark

**October 2:** A Third Way of understanding traditions and rituals. Speaker: Virginia

**October 9:** A Third Way of reading the Bible: Speaker: Virginia

**October 16:** A Third Way eschatology (last things): heaven, hell, and the end of the world. Speaker: Mark

**October 23:** A Third Way of understanding salvation: Atonement, the death of Jesus, and eternal life. Speaker: Mark

**October 30:** A Third Way politics. Speaker: Mark

**November 6:** Peace Sunday and time of anointing

**November 13:** Missions guest speaker – Melanie Neufeld

**November 20:** Memorial Sunday

**ABC Youth: Wed. Nov. 2.** Bowling – details to follow!

**Ventures Club** – Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 in the church basement

**Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona:** 117 2<sup>ND</sup> Street NW Altona, MB, R0G 0B1

**Web Page Address:** abchurchcommunity.ca

**Office:** 324-6717 **E-mail:** office@abchurch.ca

**Worship Services available online at:** abchurchcommunity.ca

**Facebook:** ABC community

**Lead Pastor:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990, (C) 1-204-771-3406, marktd@abchurch.ca

**Assoc. Pastor:** Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 virginiagr@abchurch.ca

## **FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIR** – Al Friesen

Thank you for the kind comments and encouragement on my appointment to Church Council Chair. Stephanie Friesen brought the gift of faith powered empathy and caring to the role, and we express our gratitude for leadership despite her family's most recent challenges.

Our most recent Church Council meeting also dealt with formal approval of nuts and bolts issues like Education Wing repair update, official notification of perceived elevator deficiency approval, and the real financial realities of ABC.

It should not be lost however that there are many promising signs and bright lights that deserve recognition and celebration. Noteworthy mentions include the willingness of Stephanie (and Andrew) Rempel providing leadership for our youth outreach, over 30 children attending Sunday School with more families reaching out to express interest in attending. October heralded the return of Venture clubs with approximately 30 boys and girls from Altona and surrounding area bringing the best kind of energy to our church basement. We also learned this past week that our Advent theme is "Restoration Is Near" with special services planned for Dec 18th and 24th. Planning is already underway.

You may also hear about, or read in the bulletin about an upcoming opportunity to partner with organizations as diverse as MC Witness Workers in Ethiopia, MCC Urgent Care or Camps with Meaning.

Altona Bergthaler Mennonite Church, led by our caring volunteers, continues to actively reach out on your behalf, whether it's a weekly enthusiastic Venture Club in our church basement or a conflict torn region half a world away.

Thanks for your generous encouragement.

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Church Council** accepts the resignation of Stephanie Friesen as Church Council chair and approves the placement of Al Friesen as interim chairperson until the February 2023 Annual meeting. Stephanie would like to express her thanks to the congregation for all of your encouraging words during the last 5 years. She will continue to serve on Council as a member at large.

**Nov 6:** Church potluck

**Tuesday, November 1** – sermon response discussion at noon.

**ABC annual Soup and Pie** fundraiser – Thursday, November 10.

**To date the kids coin offering** has brought in over \$500. This money goes to the MCC Bucket of Thanks project which supplies relief kits to places like Ukraine, Iraq and Syria.

**Work continues on the restoration** of the Education Wing Basement following this spring's water event. Despite many other similar claims in the region, Corner 2 Corner, our restoration team has replaced the damaged drywall. Most recently, the work has been focused on mudding, and painting. Carpet has been ordered, and we expect that to arrive before the end of the month. Thanks for your patience and encouragement.

**The Christmas season** is just around the corner and we are looking for a few volunteers to help with the Children's Christmas program. Please contact Pastor Virginia if you might be willing to help.

**ABC is accepting tenders** for walkway, sidewalk, entryway/steps and emergency exit snow removal for the winter season. This involves shoveling and snow blowing. If interested please contact Cheryl.

**The Rejoice magazines** have arrived and are in the mailboxes.

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## **EDUCATION WORKERS AT ABC:**

### **Sunday school:**

Amanda Wiens  
Kristin Falk  
Melissa Tiessen-Dyck  
Heidi Toews  
Sharon Friesen  
Byron Loeppky  
Andrew Richert

### **Ventures:**

Amanda Wiens  
Heidi Toews  
Jolene Friesen-Stoesz  
Mark Tiessen-Dyck  
Mark Penner  
Joe Wiens

### **Youth:**

Stephanie Rempel  
Andrew Rempel

\*\* Please keep them in your prayers as they nurture faith and relationships with our children and youth. \*\*

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## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**MCC:** A celebration of 50 years. Join us on November 22 at 7 pm to celebrate 50 years of MCC Thrift! This special virtual event will celebrate the history, creativity and generosity of the MCC Thrift network and our many dedicated volunteers. Register to attend at [thrift.mcc.org/celebrate50](http://thrift.mcc.org/celebrate50).

**CMU:** Christmas with CMU is taking place on Saturday, November 26 at 7:00 PM at Bethel Mennonite Church. This year's Christmas program will be in-person and livestreamed featuring Christmas favourites performed by a variety of CMU's music ensembles. Space is limited; free tickets are required (available November 1) by visiting [cmu.ca/christmas](http://cmu.ca/christmas).

**MCI Soup & Pie and Fall Concert** – November 4<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for soup & pie (by donation) from 5-7pm and concert at 7:30pm.

**Recovery of Hope** presents Resilience: Bouncing back from stress and trauma with Andrea Dyck Tuesday Nov. 8 at 7 pm at Central Station in Winkler. This workshop will have a special focus on understanding resilience for those caring for children, however all are welcome. For more information and to register email [info@recoveryofhope.ca](mailto:info@recoveryofhope.ca) or call 204.477.4673. Registration is \$20.

**Southern Manitoba Choral Society** presents "Between darkness and light – a concert of peace, advent and joy" Sunday November 20 at Altona Bergthaler Mennonite church at 2:30 pm. Madeline Friesen as conductor and Loren Hiebert as pianist.

