

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*

*Be still
and know
that I am
God*
Psalm 46:10

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE

Homecoming Sunday

September 12, 2021 10:30 A.M.

*“Be still and know that I am God.”
~ Psalm 46: 10a*

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **Jesus be the centre**

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music **Here I am to worship**

LISTENING

Children’s Story

Scripture **Gen 1: 1-5, 26-27, 31, Matt 1:23, Psalm 46:10**

Sermon **“Being still with God”**

RESPONDING

Music **10,000 Reasons**

Prayer for the Offering, the Church & the World

SENDING

Music **Amazing grace, my chains are gone**

Benediction

Grace for our Picnic Lunch

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert **Worship Leader:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Children’s Story: Josh Janzen **Scripture:** Sharon Friesen

Music: The Worship Team

Our worship service will be live-streamed Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. and continue to be available on the church website at [abchurchcommunity.ca]

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Harold Sawatzky and Helen Schulz at Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Sara Stoesz** has moved to Eastview Place.
- ~ **Congratulations** to Troy Voth and Rachel Reimer who were married on September 11th. We wish them God's blessing for their marriage.
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
Pray: Meserete Kristos Church president Desalegn Abebe asks for prayer for peace in Ethiopia. Due to security problems in the northern and western parts of the country, the MKC General Assembly planned for late August was postponed. Pray for church leaders that continue to visit and encourage the church in various regions of the country.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Beginning today, Sept 12, the pastors will be sharing from their personal faith stories, answering the question, "Who are you as a follower of Jesus?" We look forward to exploring the experiences and influences that formed us as people of God.

Sept 19 ~ Josh Janzen

Sept 26 ~ Mark Tiessen-Dyck

We would love to start Sunday school, but need your help.

Age 3 - 5 – _____

Grade 1 & 3 – Lorraine Hamm (1/2 time) & _____

Grade 4 - 6 – Sharon Friesen

Grade 7 & 8 – Stephanie Rempel

Grade 9 – 12 – Byron Loepky

If you want to be a part of our Sunday school ministry in any way or have any questions, please contact Amanda by phone (324-6719) or email (amandaw@abchurch.ca)

Thank-you for prayerfully considering being a part of this ministry.

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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

FROM the PASTOR ~ Mark Tiessen-Dyck

You may recall that in the spring we conducted a church survey with Natural Church Development. Through the survey, we've found that loving relationships is an area where our church needs to give attention. My hope is that our sermons over the next few months will foster deeper and more loving relationships.

During the next three weeks, Josh, Virginia, and myself will be sharing about who we are as followers of Jesus. Not because we want to talk about ourselves (we're actually kind of nervous about this), but because we must talk about God in a personal way. Sharing our faith, being vulnerable, and trusting one another with our stories are integral to loving relationships. We hope that in sharing our faith with you, you also will be encouraged to give voice and expression to your faith, struggles, hopes, and the stories of what God has done for you.

In October, we will preach a sermon series about love. You might think, don't we hear about love all the time, why a whole series about love? It's true that nothing is more common in sermons than exhortations to love. But our goal in this series is to do something rarely done, and that is to explore the question, what is love? Too often we rely on Hollywood or secular-romantic notions to determine what we mean by 'love'. But this series will seek to understand 'love' from a biblical and theological perspective. Specifically, and concretely, what does it mean that God is love? What are the misconceptions we tell ourselves about love? What does love look like in church?

I hope we will be open to training ourselves in love and growing deeper relationships in our congregation. Buckle up, because nothing is more invigorating and challenging than love.

Jr Youth

- **Sept 15 [Wed], 7pm** – Jr Youth Kick-off!

Sr Youth

- **Sept 14 [Tues], 4pm** - Sr Youth Kick-off.
- **Sept 24-26** - Sr Youth Weekend Retreat, contact Pastor Josh for details.

Amplify! giving voice to what we've seen and heard – introducing our theme for the Mennonite Church Canada nationwide youth (gr. 6-12) gathering, July 31- Aug 4, 2022, at Camp Valaqua, AB. Isaiah 40:3-5 will guide us as we spend time meeting God in nature and creation: A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord". Together, youth from across Canada will find their voices and raise them in joy during worship, games and prayer. Visit <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/amplify> for updates/news or contact: Joani Neufeldt youth@mennonitechurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **This Sunday, Sept 12 - Homecoming Picnic lunch** - outdoors (weather permitting) picnic lunch, following the worship service. You are invited to bring your own picnic lunch for your family, **dessert will be provided**, and join us for a time of fellowship.
- **We request** that people wear masks for entering, exiting, moving about the church building, and singing. This is our understanding of how the current public health orders requiring masks in indoor public places apply to worship services. Thanks for doing your part to ensure that our worship services are safer and consistent with public health guidelines.
- **Fall book study.** We will read the book **Everything Happens for a Reason: and other lies I've loved** by Kate Bowler. Meeting time is still to be determined. Talk to pastor Virginia if you are interested.
- **Tuesday morning Coffee Time – 10am** – outside – bring a mug and a lawn chair. Coffee will be provided. In case of inclement weather, we will meet inside.
- **Reminder:** Live-stream will continue and be available Sundays at 10:30am at <http://www.abchurchcommunity.ca>. If you are using a handheld device [phone or 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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Sept 28 – Drive-thru Mexican Fiesta** fundraiser at Gardens on Tenth. [In lieu of the annual Soup Pie]. See poster.
- Mennonite Church Canada** – office@mennonitechurchcanada.ca
- **Gathering 2022** - We Declare: What We Have Seen and Heard is the theme for Gathering 2022 in Edmonton, July 29 to August 1. The webpage for the event is: www.mennonitechurch.ca/gathering2022. Learn about our speakers and what you can expect for our next nationwide gathering in Treaty 6! Read our press release here: <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/12098-mennonite-church-canada-announces-theme-for-gathering-2022-in-edmonton> .
 - **Christian Peacemaker Teams** is celebrating 35 years of action! To mark this anniversary, we're hosting an online Peacemakers Congress on Sept 25, 11am - 3pm CST. There will be interactive workshops, team panels, an exciting keynote speaker and an auction! CPT couldn't do its work without the amazing support of so many communities and friends. Join this celebration! Details and registration: www.cptaction.org.
 - **Whose Land, Whose Promise? Palestine, Justice, and the Bible** - MC Canada Palestine-Israel Network and three partner advocacy groups are hosting a two-part online series Sept 19 and Oct 2, at 12 p.m. EDT /9 a.m. PST. Resource persons include Palestinian

pastor-theologian Alex Awad, political science professor Ron Dart, and professor Dan Epp-Tiessen of CMU. Register: <https://bit.ly/3BbaFOc>.

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

- **Join an MCM Gratitude Group.** Every second week for six weeks on Zoom. 40 minutes of joining others in encouragement and sharing gratitude. Led by Laura Funk, MCM Spiritual Director-in-residence www.mnochurch.mb.ca/events for more info and to register.

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **Xplore:** At the Intersection of Faith and Life, A 55-Plus Enrichment Program, offers courses that investigate dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it. No assignments or exams. Xplore happens in a six-week block, with online courses offered Tues, Wed, and Thursday mornings, beginning October 5. Join us! cmu.ca/xplore.
- **Oct 26-27** - Join us for this year's **J.J.Thiessen Lectures**. Dr Edith M. Humphrey will provide three lectures in a series on “Mediation and the Immediate God”. Dr. Humphrey is the William F. Orr Professor Emerita of New Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. More at: cmu.ca/jjt

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – manitoba@mccmb.ca

- **Students**, you could earn \$1,000 or more toward your ongoing studies. MCC is awarding scholarships to students working toward post-secondary degrees. The MCC Manitoba Scholarship is due on Sept 30. Learn more at mccmb.ca/studentawards.
- **Sept 19, 3pm** – ‘**We Are All Treaty People**’ Celebration! over Zoom. Learn more about building respectful relationships between settlers and Indigenous neighbours and celebrate the 150th anniversaries of Treaties 1 and 2. Register here or visit mccmb.ca/events.
- **Sept 23, 7-9pm** - MCC Manitoba 57th AGM via ZOOM. We invite you and your congregation to be represented at the meeting. For more information visit mccmb.ca/aggm.
- **Pack a Bucket of Thanks** with MCC this fall. Fill a bucket with essential relief supplies and help support vulnerable families impacted by emergency and disaster. Learn more at mccmb.ca/buckets-thanks.
- **MCC** is hiring a Director of Human Resources, Human Resources Administrative Assistant (term position) and a SEED Community Development Worker in Bolivia. For details visit mccmb.ca/openings.

Eden Health Care Services – www.edenhealthcare.ca

Mennonite Disaster Service - mdscanada@mds.org