

# Welcome to the Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona



Sunday, April 23, 2023

## Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona Worship Service

April 23, 2023, 10:30 am

Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Gathering and Praise

Music O Day Of Rest HWB 641

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music In Christ Alone VT 332

#### Dedicating our Children

Music Today Earth Is Singing VT 510

ABC Conversations with parents and big brothers

Dedication of Maverick, Redden, Piper and Ivan

Music See the Children Here Before Us VT 509

#### Hearing God's Word

Offering and Prayer

Children's Story

Scripture Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Mark 10:13-16

Sermon It Takes A Church To Raise A Child

#### Responding in Hope

Music Nothing is Lost VT 653

Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Music Lord, Let Us Now Depart In Peace HWB 428

Today we celebrate the lives of Maverick, Redden and Piper Friesen and Ivan Wiebe.

We promise to support parents Mike and Nicole, Terrell and Janna, and share in the responsibility of nurturing their children in the ways of God.

---

**Sermon:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck  
**Worship Leader:** Virginia Gerbrandt Richert  
**Children's story:** Janna Wiebe  
**Music:** Flying Free

### Congregational response and Commitment:

Maverick, Redden, Piper and Ivan; you are wonderful gifts from God! We celebrate that you are dedicated and entrusted to God. We welcome you as a valuable part of our congregation and promise to be a community where you may learn about God's love for you and Christ's invitation to you.

Nicole and Mike, Janna and Terrell; we thank God for your desire to share your faith with your children. We promise to join you in nurturing your children and sharing our faith in Christ with them. As parents, may you be filled with love, wisdom, and trust in God.

#### PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Linda Braun and Helen Voth at the Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Our love and sympathy** to Stephanie and Mark Friesen and family in the passing of Stephanie's step-mother Steffany Colins on April 13. Funeral service will be at a later date.
- ~ **Our condolences** are extended to Larry and Rose Tryon at the passing away of Larry's sister Debi Pugh from Perrysville, Ohio.
- ~ **This year the Holy Land** has seen a sharp rise in violence related to Israel's more open policies of control over Palestinian lives and land. With our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine and Israel, pray for a renewal of love, hope, and united witness in God's way of justice and peace. --from MC Canada's Palestine-Israel Network
- ~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**  
Al Giesbrecht April 23      Tom Braun April 26  
Elmer Friesen April 24      Sharon Friesen April 29

#### WORSHIP CALENDAR

On May 7<sup>th</sup> will be having brunch church again. Here is what this means: We will gather in the church basement at 9:15, with brunch beginning at 9:30. Brunch is a potluck, please bring brunch food to share. There will be a time of eating and fellowship, followed by a time of worship also in the basement. The worship time will include singing, prayer, a children's story, preaching, with the addition of times of conversation. The theme will be how relationships in the church can help nurture each other's faith.

### FROM THE PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Some of you might be aware that we have a bursary program with **Recovery of Hope**. This means that ABC is listed as a part of their CARE program. The CARE program covers the cost of counselling for individuals, couples, and families for up to 6 sessions per year. This is a completely confidential program. No names or addresses are included.

I, myself, benefited from this program several years ago, and I was surprised how easy it was to access. I simply called Recovery of Hope to make an appointment, and at the first appointment I filled out the required form, and then they sent the invoice to ABC. I went on to attend 3 or 4 counselling sessions under that program. It was nice to not have to think about or consider the cost of these sessions when I was making the appointment.

Meeting with a counsellor is something that I have engaged in on several occasions throughout my life. They have given me a place to talk about and process my feelings, without hurting anyone else's feelings, and without committing to always thinking one way. They have encouraged me in areas that I wanted to grow and helped me find the tools or resources I needed. I have valued these meetings because they gave me an outside perspective on my life as well as a companion for the journey.

Sometimes I was able to eventually tell others the things I shared with my counsellor, sometimes not. But in either case being able to talk through the issues with the counsellor was always helpful.

If this is something you are interested in exploring you are welcome to simply contact Recovery of Hope (1-[866-493-6202](tel:866-493-6202), [info@recoveryofhope.ca](mailto:info@recoveryofhope.ca)), or be in touch with one of the pastors so we can support and pray for you in your journey.

---

**Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona:** 117 2 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) **Facebook:** ABC community  
**Worship Services available online at:** [abchurchcommunity.ca](http://abchurchcommunity.ca)  
**Lead Pastor:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324.5990, C 204.771.3406, [marktd@abchurch.ca](mailto:marktd@abchurch.ca)  
**Assoc. Pastor:** Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, C 304-6119 [viriniagr@abchurch.ca](mailto:viriniagr@abchurch.ca)  
**Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries:** Terrell Wiebe, 204.216.0058, C 204.417.8200, [terrellw@abchurch.ca](mailto:terrellw@abchurch.ca)

## THIS WEEK AT ABC:

**Sunday, April 23,** Sunday school for ages 3-18 from 9:15-10:15 am in the basement of the education wing, youth are in the south wing.

**Adult Sunday School 9:15 am,** Continuing our three week discussion on Indigenous education and reconciliation. Meet in the church basement.

**Tuesdays lunch** sermon discussion time.

**Tuesday, April 25, 7 pm** Constitution review committee meeting.

**Wednesday, April 26,** 7-9 pm, Youth (gr.7-12) Soggy sports night! We will be finding the biggest puddle around and playing soccer and ultimate frisbee. Bring your rubber boots and splash pants! Hot chocolate and indoor activities to warm up afterwards!

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Attention Bakers** - Terrell would welcome the generous donation of baking to be used for snacks at youth events. If you are willing, you can bring it to Terrell in the office or place it in the church freezer with the label "Youth" on the baking. Thank you!

**You are invited** and urged to attend a meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at MCI regarding the future of **Mennonite Collegiate Institute** in Gretna, Manitoba. The Board wishes to provide information about the school, including student numbers, finances and future plans. If you are willing to serve in that capacity as a Bergthaler Mennonite Church delegate, we encourage you to contact Ang Loepky at the office or Kristen at [mkfalk05@gmail.com](mailto:mkfalk05@gmail.com)

**The pastoral staff** are calling on all who might be interested in taking a **discipleship class**. The focus of this class would be to explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus today. Those who are considering baptism might regard this class as an opportunity to explore their faith and help guide them in that decision. Those who are baptized might see this class as a chance to expand their learning, enrich their faith, and speak into the lives of others in the class. The dates and times of the class will be decided when the class is formed.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**CMU Virtual Open House** takes place on Wednesday, April 26, 6:00-7:00 PM (CDT). Receive a virtual campus tour, ask questions of our admissions team, and hear from faculty and current students—register at [cmu.ca/virtual-open-house](https://cmu.ca/virtual-open-house). Personal campus tours are available upon request by visiting [cmu.ca/experience](https://cmu.ca/experience).

**Mennonite Church Manitoba:** Could it be that God is singing? Faith and Life Choirs Spring Concerts. Saturday, May 6, 7:00pm, First Mennonite Church, Winnipeg. Sunday, May 7, 3:00pm, Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Winkler. A freewill offering will be taken for the ministry of the choirs.

**MCC:** Thinking ahead to warmer days? Join us at the 20<sup>th</sup> MCC Golf Tournament on July 6 at Bridges Golf Course! Gather your foursome to enjoy a Texas Scramble tournament, with food and prizes, in support of MCC's disaster responses and work with displaced people around the world. Visit [mccmb.ca/golf](https://mccmb.ca/golf) for tournament information and registration!

**MCI:** You're invited to MCI's Spring Fundraiser with comedian Matt Falk on May 6th! 7:30pm in Buhler Hall. Come for an evening of laughs, a silent auction and supporting MCI! Reserve your tickets online by calling the school at (204)327-5891 or by visiting [mciblues.net](https://mciblues.net). There is no cost to reserve tickets, as they are by donation. Donations will be accepted throughout the evening.

**Mennonite Heritage Village** Learning from First Nations and Metis People: Anishinaabe Treaty Making – All My Relations speaker Anishinaabe Law Scholar, Dawnis Kennedy. Monday, April 17, 7-9 pm. All My Relations – Film Screening The Power of story with discussion led by Erica Daniels. Tuesday, April 25, 6:30 pm.