

## -BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of ALTONA-

**Sunday, April 27, 2025, 10:30 am**

*"It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.*

*Luke: 24:34-35*

### Announcements

#### **Praising God**

Hymn Thine is the Glory VT 355

Call to Worship and Prayer

Hymn Now the Green Blade Rises VT 353

Offering Be Still, My Soul VT 664

#### **Hearing God's Story**

Children's Story

Scripture: Luke 24:13-35

Sermon: Jesus is Risen and Among Us

#### **Living in Hope**

Hymn Lift Your Glad Voices VT 340

ABC Conversation with Rowan Wiebe

Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Hymn: In the Bulb There Is a Flower VT 670

**Sermon:** Mark Tiessen-Dyck

**Worship Leading:** Jolene and Jacob Friesen-Stoesz

**Music:** Glenys Voth **Children's Story:** Byron Loepky

### **Worship Calendar**

**April 27.** Christ is Risen, so what? Speaker: Mark

**May 4.** Guest Speaker: Cheryl Pauls, president of Canadian Mennonite University

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PRAYER AND PRAISE -

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

Sharon J. Friesen- April 29, Leona Braun- May 1

**Hospitalized:** Henry Klassen and Gert Hildebrand are in the Altona Health Centre.

- THIS WEEK AT ABC -

**Sun. April 27, 9:15 am:** Sunday school for all ages

**Sun. April 27, 10:30 am:** Worship service.

**Tue. April 29, 10:30 am:** Coffee with the Church staff

**Tue. April 29- 7-9 pm:** Senior Youth - Guy/Girl Night!

**Wed. April 30, 7- 8:30** Junior Youth - Games Night!

**Thur. May 1, 7 pm:** Personnel meeting

**Pastor Virginia** is off this weekend.

**Next Sunday, May 4th** there will be a farmer sausage and baked potato buffet fundraiser lunch at the *Altona Mennonite Church* for our Matheson Island camp and work weekend. We encourage all ABC folks to make their way to the AMC basement after our service for the meal. We hope you will join us!

**Tuesday, May 6, 7pm - Church Wedding Shower.** Everyone, which includes men as well, is invited to celebrate two couples from our church family as they prepare for their upcoming weddings. A "Box of Blessing" will be in the church office and at the shower for people to contribute money as a gift to the couples. See the insert for additional details.

**Rhineland area food bank:** Spring Food Drive May 7, 7-9 pm. Please leave donations on the front doorstep.

**If you are using a space** in the church building for a meeting or event, please reserve your space and time with Ang at the office. Thank you!

**We are bringing back ABC conversations!** Please reach out to one of the pastors if you have something to talk about or share with the church. ABC conversations is a valuable contribution to our worship services but can also be a hassle to arrange and schedule. You can help out by reaching out.

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**Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona** 117-2<sup>nd</sup> St NW/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 1.204.771.3406, [marktd@abchurch.ca](mailto:marktd@abchurch.ca)

**Associate 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)

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Many of the community announcements have posters in the lobby for more extensive information*

**Steps Towards Reconciliation:** You are invited to join us on May 3, 10 am-12 pm at the Pioneer Centre for a pow wow demonstration and soup/fry bread meal with the Joe Creek Drummers + Dancers. There is no registration, everyone is welcome! This event is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

**MCI: May 9, 6:00 pm** – fundraiser dinner by pre-reservation only. \$30 a plate or reserve a table for 8 for \$240. **May 9, 7:30 pm** –Steve Bell for MCI's Spring Fundraiser! Join us in Buhler Hall, Gretna. **May 16<sup>th</sup>** – Experience a Day in the Life of an MCI student! Contact the school to register by May 13.

**Volunteers needed to make camp great!** Health officers, kitchen help, maintenance help and camp pastors. List of needs and sign-up here: [www.campswithmeaning.org/staff](http://www.campswithmeaning.org/staff)

**Faith and Life Choirs Spring Concerts.** Saturday, May 3, 7:00pm. First Mennonite Church, Winnipeg. Sunday, May 4, 3:00pm. Morden Mennonite Church, Morden. A freewill offering will be taken. [www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events](http://www.mennochurch.mb.ca/events)

**MCC:** In the wake of the earthquake that struck Myanmar on March 28, MCC will be responding with local partners to provide cash assistance to pay for immediate medical needs, food and water. The healthcare system has collapsed, roads are impassable, and electricity services are scarce. Donate today at [mcc.org/myanmar](http://mcc.org/myanmar).

**The Altona Palliative Volunteer Team** will be accepting donations for a new recliner chair for families while they stay with loved ones at the Altona Health Centre on May 5 and 9 in the Altona Mall near the IGA front door. The goal is to raise \$4,000. Donate in person or online: [altonapalliativecare@gmail.com](mailto:altonapalliativecare@gmail.com). Tax receipts for donations over \$25.

**Altona Health Care Ladies Auxiliary** invites you to a Taco Buffet Fundraiser, Wednesday, May 7 from 4:30 – 6:30, at the Rhineland Pioneer Centre. Cost: By Donation. All proceeds to support the needs of our hospital and PCH. Tax deductible receipts available upon request. We look forward to your support.

## VIEW FROM THE PEW – Janna Wiebe

I have to confess that I was not enthused about the footwashing element of ABC's Good Friday service from the moment I saw the first announcement about it. I knew it would require effort from me, to prepare both physically (it isn't sandal season yet!) and mentally, never mind spiritually. As the day grew closer, I realized some of my anxieties around the footwashing extended beyond fearing judgment regarding the state of my feet, or how awkward it would be if only 3 people got up and participated during the service. As Friday approached, I found it took everything in me to even make it through the church doors. I did not want to participate in footwashing, and I did not want to participate in the service at all.

I knew then as clearly as I know now that the reason I felt that way had little to do with feet, and everything to do with the current political climate, both close to home and south of us. Witnessing so much harm being done through word and deed under the guise of Christianity, and in the name of Christ has oppressed my heart in a way I can hardly express. It has made me want to distance myself from the moniker "Christian;" it has made it hard for me to see acts of faith expression as more than performative.

Well, it all came to a head on Good Friday, and with little enthusiasm I showed up. I listened; I sang. And then the second verse of *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* began, and to my surprise and joy, over half the room leapt up to move to the front and back of the sanctuary. My kids collected me to go to handwashing, and together with the diverse group around the table we experienced a moment together that I cannot describe as anything other than holy.

As I returned to the sanctuary, I sat and watched more and more of you washing each other's feet. I watched, and I wept – in fact, more than wept. I sobbed. What I witnessed was humble and genuine and a response to Jesus Christ. I realized, with gratitude in my heart, that while I may have beef with North America's current projection of Christianity, I do not have those feelings towards my church or towards Christ himself. And for that, I am deeply, immensely grateful.



*Everyone is invited to a miscellaneous*

## **WEDDING SHOWER**

*A.B.C. basement at 7pm on Tuesday, May 6th*

*The couples we're celebrating include:*

***Gavin Wiens & Lanea Friesen***

*Parents: Joe & Amanda Wiens and  
Mike & Tina Friesen*

***Kate Friesen & Matthew Winter***

*Parents: Lyndon & Sandy Friesen and  
Sean & Kathy Winter*

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