

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of ALTONA
SUNDAY, February 11, 2024 10:30 am

Gathering in God's Presence

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn 10,000 Reasons/Bless the Lord VT 111

Call to worship and Prayer

Hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness VT 419

Eden Sharing

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for the Offering

Offering His Eye is on the Sparrow

Children's Story

Scripture

Sermon

Responding in Faith

Hymn My Life Flows On VT 605

Prayer for the Church and the World

Benediction

Hymn Soon and Very Soon VT 669

Sermon: Terrell Wiebe **Worship Leading:** Terrell Wiebe

Music: Jayme Giesbrecht **Children's Story:** Delores Enns

In our worship service this week we welcome Jayme Giesbrecht, Director of Development at the Eden Foundation.

Next Sunday Lent Begins. This year our journey to the cross will be guided by the theme, "The Last Week". We will be taking a magnifying glass to the final week of Jesus' life: What he did, what he taught, the controversies he was involved in, and the questions he was asked. Our hope is that by exploring Jesus' last week we will better understand what hangs in the balance of Jesus' life and death. In keeping with the purpose of Lent, our worship services will include times of confessing sins and receiving God's grace.

Lent will begin with Palm Sunday (instead of the Sunday before Easter) because this event is the start of Jesus' last week. We will also have the opportunity to come forward and receive ashes as practiced in an Ash Wednesday service.

Feb. 18: Jesus enters Jerusalem. Receiving ashes. Matthew 21:1-11. Speaker: Mark

Feb. 25: Jesus disrupts the temple. Matthew 21:12-17. Speaker: Mark

March 3: Jesus is questioned. Matthew 22:15-40. Speaker: Terrell

March 10: Bags of gold. Matthew 25:14-30. Speaker: Jason Driedger

March 17: The last supper. Matthew 26:17-30 (John 13:1-20). Speaker: Mark

March 24: Jesus in the garden. Matthew 21:31-56. Speaker: Terrell

FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL: Al Friesen

You may recall the discussion at last year's AGM regarding our constitution, and the expressed desire for a review. Following the meeting, Ben Dueck and Melissa Tiessen-Dyck volunteered to join a Church Council Rep (Al Friesen) for a series of spring conversations which ultimately focused on a number of areas for an updated constitution that reflected our current needs at ABC.

- Commission size, length of service terms, and make up.
- Recognition of the value and service of "non-members" who enthusiastically provide leadership throughout our administration structure.
- Review (and formalize) administrative practices that are currently in place.
- update terms and language related to job descriptions.
- Affirm the many areas of our constitution that continue to remain relevant.
- Strive to make the revised constitution more readable.

A draft was prepared for Church Council in spring, and subsequently discussed at length by Church Council this fall. These discussions also included a member of the most recent revision committee over 20 years ago. A final draft was approved by Church Council at our January meeting. It was agreed that a copy would be made available to the congregation (e-copy and paper) by Feb 11. We invite your comments at alfriesen55@gmail.com (or call Al Friesen @ 204-324-7180) It is our intention to present the complete constitution for approval at our AGM on Feb 25th. Church Council expresses its gratitude to Ben and Melissa for their willingness to serve ABC in these important discussions.

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

Web Page Address: abchurchcommunity.ca **Office:** 324.6717

E-mail: office@abchurch.ca **Facebook:** ABC community

Worship Services available online at: abchurchcommunity.ca

Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324.5990, C 204.771.3406, marktd@abchurch.ca

Assoc. Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, on sabbatical until April.

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries: Terrell Wiebe, 204.216.0058,

C 204.417.8200, terrellw@abchurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer and Praise:

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

Janna Wiebe- Feb. 12, Ronn Friesen- Feb. 13, Lena Schellenberg- Feb. 13,
Mary Dyck- Feb. 17, Trevor Friesen-Stoesz- Feb. 17

Hospitalized: Pete Heinrichs at the Altona Hospital.

We praise God that Bonnie Friesen received positive news on a recent CT scan and we pray for continued positive news in future scans.

Mennonite Church Canada – Ethiopia: Prayer requests from Werner and Joanne DeJong: 1) Please continue to pray for peace in Ethiopia and for the families of the students who come from conflict zones. 2) Praise God! Werner is back to full health. Thank you for your prayers. 3) Werner's next block course begins on February 26th. Please pray for physical and emotional strength as it can be exhausting teaching morning and afternoon, day after day. The name of the Master's course: The Biblical and Theological View of Peace. 4) Pray for the graduating class as each student has to prepare a thesis in order to graduate. Werner is supervising four students as they write their theses.

This week at ABC:

Sun. Feb. 11 9:15-10:15: Sunday School for age 3-grade 12.

Tue. Feb. 13, 10:30: Coffee with the church staff.

Tue. Feb. 13, 6:30 - 8:00: Senior Youth. We are playing games, eating cookies, and visiting with the residents of the Gardens Apartments. Drop off and pick up will be at the apartments (entrance on 5th St NE).

Wed. Feb. 14, 7:00 - 9:00 Junior Youth. Valentines Day baking and games!

Wed. Feb. 14: No Ventures this week.

Thur. Feb. 15: 2 pm: Book study.

The MCM Annual Gathering is planned for March 1-2, (Friday evening and Saturday), at Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler (750-15th St). Organizers are looking forward to coming together from across our congregations, enjoying a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, encouragement, information, and affirmation. The Gathering 2024 theme is "From Every Nation: Living into an Intercultural Church." Mark Tiessen-Dyck has committed to serving as one of the fourteen delegate slots reserved for ABC. Would you like to join fellow MCM members from across Manitoba? The registration deadline is February 14th, and the \$50.00

delegate fee will be covered by ABC. Ang has more information at the church office. Thanks in advance for your interest.

Camp sponsorship forms will be available in the church office for campers and camp staff planning on going to camp this summer. Application deadline April 30, 2024.

Invitation to those using hearing aids that are connected to their mobile phones. Please visit the AV Tech desk at 10 am on Sunday morning or after the worship service and we'll be excited to help you connect to our AudioFetch sound system. The AudioFetch system will provide live sound during the service to your device and you can adjust the volume!

Pastor Mark is on vacation until February 13. Pastor Terrell is available if you need to be in touch with a pastor.

Save the date: Our church AGM will be February 25.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MCM Mondays. Feb 12, 7:30pm on Zoom. These sessions are meant for everyone in the congregation who is interested in the topic. "Food security and food production". Host Melanie Neufeld has invited Sandra Dyck (Springstein) to talk about her first-hand experience with the impact of a hunger initiative and global partnerships in Africa. For more information: www.mennochurch.mb.ca/mcmmondays

Camps with Meaning: A great summer of camp is coming! All registrations are open: campers, staff, volunteers. www.campswithmeaning.org

CMU: Xplore- CMU's Xplore extended education program begins February 20 with courses such as "Reconciling Witness in a Polarized World", "Creating a Spiritual Container for Values and Practices", "Disability, Theology, and the Church" and "The Letter to the Ephesians". Courses are available both in person and online beginning February 15. Register as an individual or host a church watch party. For more information and to register visit cmu.ca/xplore.

Mennonite Church Manitoba weekly congregational profile:

Morden Mennonite Church is a group of ordinary people on an extraordinary journey with Jesus. It's a journey of faith and love on the path toward greater peace and justice. They welcome into their fellowship people of any race, age, ability, income, family status, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and invite full participation in their congregational life including baptism, church membership, marriage, and church leadership. After another surplus year, they are trying to prepare a new budget in line with their current realities and

they are also undergoing a pastoral review process. They would appreciate prayers for wisdom and discernment.