

Welcome to the Bergthaler Mennonite
Church of Altona
Sunday, July 16, 2023
10:30 am

*"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard
equality with God as something to be exploited, but
emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born
in human likeness."*

Philippians 2:5

Gathering and Praise

Welcome and Announcements

Music Come now is the time to worship STJ 9

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music O breath of life STJ 35

Offering

Hearing God's Word

Scripture Philippians 2:1-13

Sermon Seeking the mindset of Christ

Responding in Trust

Music Breathe on me, breath of God HWB 356

Prayer of the Church and the World

Benediction

Music You shall go out with joy HWB 427

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck
Worship Leading: Jolene Friesen-Stoesz
Music: ABC Ensemble

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

Hospitalized: Helen Voth and Bernard Wiebe at the Altona Health Centre.

Josh Driedger and Rebecca Barber were married on July 15! We join in celebrating their marriage and wish them God's blessing. Josh has many family members who are part of ABC, including parents Jason and Tammy, and we also recognize this gift of marriage to their family.

Congratulations to Larry and Frances Friesen on their 50th wedding anniversary on July 20!

This Wednesday Pastor Terrell, Pastor Mark, a couple of our youth, and people from Altona Mennonite Church will be travelling to Matheson Island. Matheson Island is a Metis fishing community on Lake Winnipeg that has had connections to Mennonite Churches over the years. The Matheson Island community is interested in re-engaging relationships with Mennonite Churches and so our trip is about exploring possibilities. Our meeting with leaders at Matheson Island has been facilitated by Mennonite Church Manitoba. Please join in prayer that our conversations will be fruitful and that the Holy Spirit will guide the way forward.

Pray with the Bible Missionary Church (Mennonite) in Myanmar: They continue to face many difficulties in daily life including access to health care. Amos Chin, chair of BMC church, has been able to make family connections to access care for a serious condition in Thailand. Pray for healing, wisdom, and peace for him and his family.

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

Dave Harms July 18 James Enns July 22

Harold Schlegel July 19

WORSHIP CALENDAR

We are in the midst of a four-week sermon series preaching through Paul's letter to the Philippians.

July 9: Thanksgiving. Speaker: Virginia

July 16: The Imitation of Christ. Speaker: Mark

July 23: What Matters. Speaker: Terrell

July 30: Sunflower Festival community worship service. No service at ABC.

August 6: Endurance: Virginia

THIS WEEK AT ABC:

Sunday, July 16, 9:15 am, Discipleship class.

Tuesday, July 18, 10:30 am, Coffee with the church staff.

Wednesday, July 19, Pastors Terrell and Mark and some youth visit Matheson Island.

FROM THE PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Most of us are fully into summer mode by now. This is a great time to set aside the routines of the rest of the year and do some things a little bit different. School is out for the summer, normal church and community meetings are on pause, campgrounds are open, and the weather tends to be pretty nice. Even our worship services are a bit simpler in summer.

As we enjoy our summers and the pause from some of our other routines, are there new routines that you pick up? Or other sorts of rhythms that you get into?

One routine that I have picked up this summer is using the *Anabaptist Prayer Book: Take our Moments and our Days* to guide my prayer times. This is a prayer book created especially from an Anabaptist-Mennonite perspective to guide individual and community prayer times. This has helped me have more structure to my prayer time and incorporate other's words with my own.

Another routine that has seemed to develop in my family is paying attention to the bugs and flowers and plants that we see on a daily basis. This has helped me slow down and think about the vast variety of plants and animals that are present in our small neck of the world. As well as enjoy the wonder on my children's faces as they discover yet another beautiful flower.

I hope your summer routines can be encouraging and life giving as well.

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona: 117 2 Street NW
Altona, MB, R0G 0B1

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, C 304-6119 virginiagr@abchurch.ca

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries: Terrell Wiebe, 204.216.0058,
C 204.417.8200, terrellw@abchurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Over the summer months the pastors will be taking some vacation time. During the times when pastors are on vacation they will not be at the church, checking emails, or attending to church matters. There will always be at least one of the pastors around in case you need to be in touch.

Pastors vacation time:

Mark: July 28 – August 6

Virginia: July 26-27, August 7-13

Terrell: July 10-16, 23-26, August 2-15

For July and August, the **administrative office** will be open Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Children's bulletins are back for the summer! During the summer months there will not be a children's feature – we invite you to get a children's bulletin from the ushers. Kids coins count will continue.

ABC goes to camp! September 16-17. We need to start getting a sense of how many people we will be. The cost for overnight and meals is \$86 per adult and \$52 per child. This also includes the use of most of the camp activities and facilities. People can also come out for worship and the day on Sunday. We are asking people to let the church office know your plans by the end of July about overnight, with payment due at the beginning of September. Having a retreat costs money—some people can cover it and it is not a burden, for others it impacts their decision more. We are looking at ways of cost sharing. If you are interested in helping reduce the cost for others, be in touch with one of the pastors.

SPECIAL NOTE: The ABC audio-visual technician team is unable to coordinate livestreaming of Sunday morning worship services during the summer months. Throughout the summer, we plan to record the audio and post that onto our YouTube channel during the following week.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Common Word: Recommended titles, to buy or borrow, for the lawn chair, hammock or beach blanket during the summer months – <https://www.commonword.ca/go/3480>

Mennonite Church Canada: Anabaptism at 500 Photo Book. Submit a photo and story to help celebrate our shared faith and contemporary Anabaptist witness in the world - <https://anabaptismat500.com/submit-a-photo-and-story>