

Welcome to the Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona



“One thing I ask from the Lord,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.”
Psalm 27:4

Church picnic! We will be worshipping outdoors (unless the weather is bad).

What to bring: lawn chair, dishes for lunch, your own beverages, a generous salad or a dessert to share (hotdogs are provided).

The theme for our worship service is beauty. We will hear sharing from Elaine Friesen, Shelby Penner, and Jolene Friesen-Stoesz.

Today we recognize and celebrate these milestones: Rowan Wiebe is completing Grade 3 and will receive a Bible from the church.

Dayna Wahl, Gavin Wiens, and Nick Rempel are graduating from high school and will each receive a mug from the church.

Our worship service will not be live-streamed this Sunday. A recording will be posted during the upcoming week.

Sunday, June 11, 2023
Worship Service and Church Picnic
10:30 am

Worship Leading: Mark Tiessen-Dyck
Music: Worship Team
Children's Story: Terrell Wiebe

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

Hospitalized: Helen Voth and Grace Klippenstein at the Altona Health Centre and Bill Bergman at the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

International Witness: Our Camps with Meaning post-high staff have begun the work of hosting campers at camp. Our Adults with Disabilities Venture (ADV) camps are a unique ministry which CWM has run since the late 1970's. Pray for campers and staff.

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

Larry Rempel June 12 Bernie Friesen (Edith) June 15
Al Friesen June 13 Val Sawatzky June 15
Albert Falk June 14

WORSHIP CALENDAR

We are in the midst of a sermon series called "Living Well, Living Wise" based on the Bible's Wisdom Literature.

May 14. Speaker: Mark. Proverbs: "The search for knowledge" part 1.

May 21. Speaker: Mark. Proverbs: "The search for knowledge" part 2.

May 28. Speaker: Virginia. Pentecost celebration with Communion.

June 4. Speaker: Virginia. Ecclesiastes: "The search for meaning" part 1

June 11. Church picnic & POTLUCK. Sharing about beauty

June 18. Speaker: Mark. Ecclesiastes: "The search for Meaning" part 2

June 25. Speaker: Terrell. Job: "The search for justice" part 1

July 2. Speaker: Mark. Job: "The search for justice" Part 2.

Years ago, I heard a saying about what it was like to do cross cultural missions work. It was something like "the majority of missions is simply being willing to eat their food." And the idea was that eating food together and fellowshiping together was one of the key steps in building a relationship. And that it was not us imposing our "food" or our agenda on them, but more of a mutual sharing. And from this sharing many things can grow.

I also read an article this week by Pastor Jerrell Williams from Oregon that said "As followers of Christ, we are called to always be actively helping to meet the needs of the communities we are in." And that the best way to do that is to show up for our community. I think this is a similar idea as to being willing to eat their food. It takes the focus off us and puts it on relationships.

I recently heard the story of a group of employees that attended one of their co-worker's churches in support of a special occasion they were celebrating. This church was not from the same tradition as most of the employees, but they showed up to support and celebrate together.

Today as we think about our calling as followers of Christ and the community that is around our church, how might we be called to eat with our neighbour's or show up for them?

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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,

THIS WEEK AT ABC

Sunday, June 11, Church picnic and potluck lunch. No Sunday school at 9:15. Sunday school celebration after lunch.

Jr. and Sr. Youth: Wednesday, 6:30 - 9:15 Youth windup! We will be going to Mark and Lisa Penner's farm for swimming, games, animals, campfire, smores, etc. Bring your swimming gear!

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SAVE. THE. DATE. ABC goes to camp! September 16-17 at Camp Assiniboia. Saturday we will explore the camp and do some group activities. Overnight we will stay in the cabins and Sunday we will move our worship service to camp, have lunch and enjoy the beautiful setting together. More details to come.

Randy Klassen former pastor of our congregation and currently pastoring at St. Catharines United Mennonite church, is retiring after 45 years of pastoral service. St. Catharines church in Ontario are collecting notes and well wishes from communities and former congregants and we are invited to share as well! Any notes for Randy can be emailed to Ang at the church office, by Wednesday June 21. We will collectively send them as a church.

Rejoice renewals are due! The price for next year is \$50.81/person. Please let Ang know by **Wednesday June 14.**

Camp sponsorship from ABC is available. Forms are available at the church office and are due back June 26.

If you would like to be on a funeral serving group please call or text Marilyn Friesen at 204.304.3814.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MCC: Celebrate the centenary of the Russländer Mennonite immigration to Canada with *Singing our Journey, Sängerfest 2023* on July 15 at 7:00pm at the Centennial Concert Hall. You can enjoy a traditional Mennonite songfest, featuring choirs and soloists. All offering proceeds will support MCC projects. Tickets are free and must be reserved. Visit mhsc.ca/soj for event information and to reserve your ticket today.

Mennonite Church Canada: "Come and See" Holy Land pilgrimage. Mennonite Church Canada and its Palestine-Israel Network (PIN) is sponsoring a tour next spring, May 11 to 26. Along with visits to key biblical sites, it will introduce participants to the "living stones"—the Palestinian churches and people of the Galilee, the West Bank, and Jerusalem. It will conclude with attendance at the biennial Christ at the Checkpoint Conference in Bethlehem. Tour size is limited to 18, so early reservations are encouraged. For details and application information, please visit the PIN web page at <https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/pin>.

Indigenous Relations: In 2016, MC Canada Delegates affirmed a resolution to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery as opposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ and furthermore to establish a working group to establish recommendations for the Mennonite Church to take steps along the path of reconciliation. Representatives of this working group have been finalized and they will begin meeting this summer. Hold in the Light Loretta (MCA), Len (MCBC), Nancy (MCSK), Lori (MCM), and Bonnie (MCEC) as they meet, study, and listen for the Spirit of reconciliation's guidance for us.

Blood Donor Clinic: Thursday, June 15 at the Altona Rhineland Pioneer Centre. The donor centre hours are: 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Please register your appointment at: Blood.ca

YFC Altona's Miss Mondays is looking for female volunteers! We are hoping to run every other week this summer if we get enough volunteers. Commitment levels vary, from once to twice a month. Please contact me at kendra.fehr@yfc.ca or text me at 204-362-4072.

10,000 REASONS

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near, and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.

RIVER OF LIFE

verse

I've got a river of life flowing out of me
Makes the lame to walk and the blind to see,
Opens prison doors, sets the captives free.
I've got a river of life flowing out of me. (repeat 1st time)

chorus

Spring up, O well, within my soul.
Spring up, O well, and make me whole
Spring up, O well, and give to me
That life abundantly (go back to verse, then repeat chorus
2nd time)

THE MOUNTAIN OF GOD

(vs 1)

Come let us go to a place that is pure
To learn about love and wipe away tears
He'll melt swords of steel and hearts made of stone
He'll set prisoners free and give strangers a home

Chorus:

So come, come as you are
Oh come, from near and far
Oh come, salvations we'll taste
As we climb the mountain of God

(vs 2)

From each corner and end of the earth
We'll gather together to sing of your worth
Of blind who can see, and weary who rest
Good news for the poor, freedom for oppressed

Chorus

(vs 3)

New life awaits for all who believe
All who love mercy, do justice, walk humbly
With Christ as our guide, united we'll be
Living the kingdom secure in God's peace

Chorus

THE RIVER IS HERE

(vs 1)

Down the mountain the river flows
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here

Chorus:

The river of God sets our feet a-dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice, for the river is here.

(vs 2)

The river of God is teaming with life
And all who touch it can be revived
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord

Chorus

(vs 3)

Up to the mountain, we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord
Along the banks of the river we run
We dance with laughter, giving praise to the Son

Chorus

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Oh Lord, my God!
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed,

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin;

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart

Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

GOD OF WONDERS

Vs 1

Lord of all creation
Of water, earth and sky
The Heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on High

Chorus:

God of Wonders, beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Vs 2

Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call Your name by night

Chorus

God of Wonders, beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of Heaven and Earth
Lord of Heaven and Earth

Bridge:

Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth
Hallelujah, to the Lord of Heaven and Earth

Chorus

God of Wonders, beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
God of Wonders, beyond our galaxy
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You are holy, holy
Lord of Heaven and Earth
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