

-BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of ALTONA-
Sunday, March 8, 2026, 10:30 am

Better what the eye sees than the roving of the appetite. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. Ecclesiastes 6:9

Third Sunday of Lent

Announcements

Gathering and Praise

Hymn Here I am to Worship VT 227
Call to Worship and Prayer
Hymn You Are Holy
Offering Revelation Song VT 415

From Vice to Virtue

Children's story
Scripture Ecclesiastes 6:7-9, Isaiah 58:6-11
Sermon A Life of Meaning: Gluttony and Fasting

Confession, Assurance and Sending

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance
Hymn Blessed Be Your Name VT 637
Prayer for the Church and the World
Benediction
Hymn Now May the Lord of Peace

Sermon: Terrell Wiebe **Children's Story:** Kristin Falk

Worship Leading: Rose Tryon **Music:** Shelby Penner, Martin Vallejos, Hilda Franz

Mark Tiessen-Dyck, Glenys Voth, Marilyn Martens, Wendy Friesen, and Riana Voth are providing worship services at Gardens on Tenth and Eastview this Sunday.

From Vice to Virtue

Feb 22. The Seven Deadly Sins: An Introduction. Speaker: Greg Costen

March 1. Envy, Greed, Contentment, and Generosity. Speaker: Mark

March 8. Gluttony and Temperance. Speaker: Terrell

March 15. Sloth and Faithfulness. Speaker: Mark

March 22. Lust and Chastity. Speaker: Mark

March 29. Wrath and Love: Speaker Terrell

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PRAYER AND PRAISE -

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

Helen Schulz- March 10, Mary Anne Loeppky- March 12,
Rose Tryon- March 12

Hospitalized: Ann Enns is in the Altona Health Centre.

Elmer Heinrichs from our congregation passed away on Saturday, February 28. There will be a come and go celebration of his life on Sun. March 15 from 3-5 pm at the Altona Senior Centre. We are invited to thank God for Elmer's life and to keep his wife Amanda and family in our prayers.

International Witness: MC Canada's Palestine/Israel Network (PIN) thanks all who donated to its Advent giving project for scholarships at Bethlehem Bible College. The PIN also urges prayer for our siblings in faith as they maintain a gospel message in Gaza, West Bank, and East Jerusalem with the added complexity and threat from the US/Israel conflict with Iran. Donations are still being accepted through March 31; for more information, please visit

<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/adventgiving2025>.

- THIS WEEK AT ABC -

Sun. Mar. 8, 9:15 am: Sunday school for all ages.

Sun. Mar. 8, 10:30 am: Worship service

Tue. Mar. 10, 10:30 am: Coffee with church staff

Wed. Mar. 11, 7-9 pm: Combined Youth - A fun simulation, teaching us what it might be like to immigrate to Canada from another country. With special guest - Paul Peters. See you there!

Wed. Mar. 11, 7-8:15 pm: Ventures

Thur. Mar. 12, 2 pm: Book study at Gardens on Tenth

Sun. Mar. 15, following the worship service: Church wedding shower

This weekend is the Mennonite Church Manitoba annual gathering. Representing our congregation is Grace Harms, Hilda Franz, Rose Tryon, Mary Anne Loeppky, Rick Neufeld, and Mark Tiessen-Dyck. Everyone is welcome to watch the livestream of the worship service on Friday March 6 at 7pm at the MCM website.

Terrell's review: *The deadline to return the review is March 8.* Please return completed reviews to the bin in the foyer. We encourage

everyone to participate in this important process by providing honest and thoughtful feedback.

Sunday, March 15 at 12 noon - Church Wedding Shower:

Everyone, which includes men as well, is invited to celebrate Nick Rempel and Vally Krahn as they prepare for their upcoming wedding. We're hosting a potato bar lunch followed by a miscellaneous shower. Church family & friends may choose to share a gift or may contribute cash into the "Box of Blessings" for Nick & Vally. This box is located in the church office and will be at the shower for people to contribute money as a gift to the couple. *(Note: Please bring a salad or dessert to share at the potato bar lunch.)*

ABC Auction: Friday, March 20, at 7 pm in the church basement.

Items may be brought to the church basement starting on *Monday, March 16 for storing*. If you need help with transporting an object to the church, please let us know as well and we will arrange this. We have many items dedicated to this auction already and we have room for much more! Please come ready to bid and to have a lot of fun! Contact options: Loeppkyangela@gmail.com, office@abchurch.ca or call/text 204.304.0282.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are posters on the foyer bulletin board for more information and additional community announcements.

CMU Discover Weekend: Do you live outside Winnipeg and want to learn more about CMU? Come to Discover Weekend on March 26-28. You'll experience all the excitement of Discover Day, plus two nights in residence and an off-campus excursion to get to know Winnipeg. Visit cmu.ca/experience for more information and to register. Space is limited.

Altona Blood Donor Clinic Tues. Mar. 17 at the Pioneer Centre.

Contact blood.ca or call 1-888-2Donate. Donation hours are: 1-7 pm.

Southern MB Choral Society winter concert, Sun. Mar. 29, 3 pm at ABC.

MCC: Neubergthal Commons Barn. Sat, March 14, 7 pm. "Building the Beloved Community in a Time of Division", MCC welcomes Chris Rice who is an MCC alumnus, co-founding director of Duke Divinity School Centre for Reconciliation, writer, and global networker. Join us to hear him share about "Reconciling All Things" RSVP:

<https://mcc.org/events/building-beloved-community-time-division>

FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIR- Al Friesen

ABC held its annual general meeting last Sunday, with many of you in attendance, and on behalf of Church Council, in a word (or two) "Thank You." As in previous years, the "AGM" is kind of a report card or look in the rear-view mirror on the activities and events that have shaped and impacted our church over the past 365 days. It's an opportunity, as a group, to share openly of some of the challenges faced and how we navigated those choppy, and at times, turbulent waters, but perhaps most encouraging, from my perspective, is how we made the effort to do that "together", and for that I'm encouraged and inspired. For those of you who did not attend, we presented, discussed and approved standard AGM items like the 2025 Financial Statement and 2026 Budget. It served as a reminder that Finances are an important indicator of the short and long term stability of an organization, and ABC is not insulated from those realities, but our gathering was also a reminder that ABC is much more than paying the property taxes, and heating bills.

We again heard that plans are well underway, and interest is high, for another impacting experience at Matheson Island. Our Youth, Venture and Sunday School classes are attracting more and more children, including many with no ties to ABC, or any church affiliation. An AGM is an opportunity to witness a snapshot of the efforts of those who have stepped forward with their energy, time, and faith to God's work on earth. And our role? Support, affirm and encourage. Thanks also for the spirited roundtable discussion on staffing, communion, and organ repair, along with an invitation to expand the number of those involved with the work of the church. There will be more to share in the time ahead.

And yes, I also agree with those who observed that there was a "lightness" in the room - a sense of purpose, and a desire to look forward. Our commitment on Council is to ensure open communication and transparent decision making as we jointly embrace the opportunities of 2026.

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona 117-2nd St NW/R0G 0B1

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