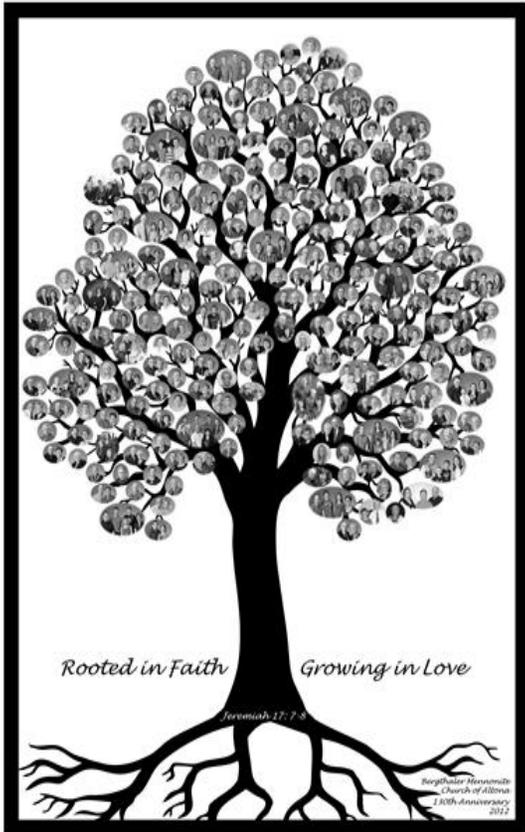


Welcome to the Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona



"The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord;
the knowledge of the holy one is
understanding."
Proverbs 9:10

Gathering and Praise

Welcome and Announcements

Music Jesus Calls Us Here To Meet Him STJ 3

Call to Worship and Prayer

Music Mountain Of God VT 11

Offering

Hearing God's Word

Children's Story

Scripture Proverbs 8

Sermon How do I get me some Wisdom?

Responding in Trust

Music Loving Spirit STJ 34

ABC Conversations with Hannah, Ang and Byron

Loeppky

Prayer of the Church and World

Benediction

Music The Peace Of The Earth STJ 77

Sunday, May 14, 2023

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck
Worship Leading: Rick Neufeld
Music: ABC Ensemble
Children's Story: Laurie Enns

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Linda Braun and Helen Voth at the Altona Health Centre.
- ~ **Anne Sawatzky** of our church family passed away May 8. We are invited to join in gratitude for her life and pray for her family. The funeral service was held on Friday, May 12.
- ~ **Don Penner** of our church family passed away May 10. We are invited to join in gratitude for his life and pray for his family. A private family burial was on May 13 and a celebration of life for both Don and Chris will be at a later date.
- ~ **Congratulations to John Martens** on his retirement from Elmer's Manufacturing on April 28. We wish him God's blessing on this next chapter of his life.
- ~ **Congratulations to Bonnie Friesen** on her retirement from her practice as a foot care nurse this past week. We wish her God's blessing and care on this next chapter of her life.
- ~ **Pray** for the annual meeting of Friends of Grace Church network that is happening this weekend in Thailand. Pray that the meeting will be fruitful as they discuss vision and plans for the next few years. Pray for unity and good communication. Pray for Witness workers, Tom and Christine Poovong, as well as FGC president Pastor Khampan, as they bring leadership to this group.
- ~ **We wish a happy birthday and God's blessing to:**
 - George Giesbrecht May 14
 - Rudy Martens May 17
 - Henry Peters May 20

WORSHIP CALENDAR

- We are beginning** 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). Speaker: Mark. Ecclesiastes: "The search for meaning" part 2.
 - June 18.** Speaker: Terrell. Job: "The search for justice" part 1
 - June 25.** Speaker: Mark. Job: "The search for justice" part 2.

FROM THE PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Almost 500 years ago, in 1525, a group of Christians in Zurich, Switzerland gathered together to study scripture and discuss their faith and through this decided to baptise one another. This believer's baptism has become known as the beginning of the Anabaptist movement and is one of the places we trace our beginnings as a Mennonite church.

Now, Mennonites and Anabaptists from around the world are looking to the year 2025 to celebrate 500 years since that first baptism. One aspect of this celebration is acknowledging what has all changed in the past 500 years. This movement that began as a fringe part of the Reformation is now active in most countries in the world. It began with an act that was punishable by death, and now we in North America practice believer's baptisms without any threat or thought to its political nature.

Another big part of the celebration is sharing and affirming ways that individuals and churches are living into our Mennonite and Anabaptist Christian faith. So, I want to pose the question to you, how do you see people living out their faith in inspiring and creative ways? Or what have you seen that has given you a glimpse of God at work among us? Or where have you seen signs of hope and reconciliation in our community?

If you have stories, I would love to hear them and also share them with the broader Mennonite Anabaptist community.

If you are curious about more information about the celebrations go to anabaptismat500.com.

THIS WEEK AT ABC:

Sunday, May 14, Sunday School for ages 3-18 from 9:15-10:15 am in the basement of the education wing, youth are in the south wing.

Sunday, May 14, 9:15-10:15, MCI discussion time.

Tuesdays lunch sermon discussion time.

Tuesday May 16, 7-9, Senior Youth - Youth Talk Night.

Wednesday, May 17, 7-9, Junior Youth - Youth Talk Night.

Thursday, 7 pm, Church Council meeting.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Virginia will be on holidays this weekend and May 17-22.

Terrell Wiebe and Glenys Voth are leading worship at Eastview and Gardens on Tenth this morning.

A huge thank you to all who donated baked goods for the youth program. They are being thoroughly enjoyed! Containers will be returned as they are emptied. Containers will be returned once they've been used to the table in the foyer.

This Sunday, during the Sunday School hour (9:15-10:15) in the church basement, there will be an opportunity to talk about Mennonite Collegiate Institute. This is an opportunity to hear more about the situation MCI is in and discuss our church's relationship to the school.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mennonite Church Manitoba: Our Ukraine furniture people (Bridge of Hope) need help moving furniture from the 600 Shaftesbury offices to homes for Ukrainian newcomers. The next volunteer opportunity is this Saturday, May 13 from 9-3pm. Volunteers are encouraged to register at: www.bridgeofhopeukraine.com

Mennonite Church Canada: Please pray that the woods, waters and open spaces of our summer campgrounds are filled with God's glory and that those who enter into them will understand their interconnectedness with creation in new ways!

MCC: Looking for new golf gear – or have some to give away? Support a Golf Yard Sale for MCC on May 19 (2-7pm) and 20 (9am-3pm) at 7 Mercury Bay! Donations of golf clubs and gear are welcomed at Selkirk (511 Selkirk Ave) or Sargent (644 Burnell St) MCC Thrift Shops, or at 7 Mercury Bay. Contact Ron (204-296-4949) or Connie (204-261-4949) Loeppky for questions or more information.

CMU: CMU Golf Classic will take place on June 14 at Bridges Golf Course. Come as an individual or foursome to support CMU's student athletes and student aid program. To register or for sponsorship opportunities, visit cmu.ca/golf.

MCI: On Friday, May 26th, MCI will be hosting a Day in the Life for students in grade 8-11. DITL gives you the opportunity to experience life at MCI, from going to classes, meeting teachers, eating lunch in our dining hall, and going to chapel – all hosted by MCI students! To experience a DITL, contact Sophie at recruitment@mciblues.net or by calling the school (204-327-5891).

YFC: Miss Mondays will be hosting a paint night with Cheryl Krahn, Monday, May 15th. Girls ages 12 - 20 are all welcome to come! We will be starting at 7:00. Please text Kendra at 201-362-4072 for details or to let her know you will be attending.

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Assoc. Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, C 304-6119
virginiagr@abchurch.ca

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