

*Welcome to the
Bergthaler Mennonite Church
of Altona*



Sunday, February 7, 2021

Worship Service

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

WORSHIP SERVICE

February 7, 2021

*“...but those whose hope is in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow
weary, they will walk and not be faint.*

~ Isaiah 40: 31

GATHERING and PRAISE

Welcome and Announcements

Music **Great is Thy faithfulness**

Call to Worship and Prayer

LISTENING

Music **Wings of an Eagle**

Children's Story

Scripture **Isaiah 40: 28-31**

Sermon **“Renewing our Strength”**

RESPONDING

Music **Flying Free**

Prayer for the Offering, the Church, and the World

SENDING

Benediction

Music **Christ we do all adore thee**

Sermon: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

Worship Leader: Mary Anne Loepky

Children's Story: Delores Enns

Music by Recorded Artists: SE Samonte, Steve Bell, Flying Free, Oasis Chorale

Our worship service will be available on the church website
Sunday morning [abchurchcommunity.ca] at 10:30 a.m.

PRAYER & PRAISE CORNER

- ~ **Hospitalized:** Doreen Sawatzky, Anne Braun, Elizabeth Doell, Helen Schulz, Waldo Schulz at Altona Health Centre; Anne Kehler at Notre Dame de Lourdes Hospital.
- ~ **I would like to thank** ABC family for prayers and support during my time of surgery last May and ongoing chemo treatments. I should be able to complete the treatments in the next few weeks and am hopeful in regaining my strength and energy. I am also very grateful for the anointing healing service arranged for our family by Pastor Mark. It was the beginning of our healing process and gave us so much hope also.
~ In Thankfulness, Sharon L [James] Friesen
- ~ **Mennonite Church Canada**
Myanmar congregation builds church - Pray for the Mission Anabaptist Church in Chin State, Myanmar, as they build a place where they can worship with and train members of their community. Pray that God will bless this place and use it to be a blessing to their region and country.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

Lent 2021 - Deep calls to Deep—God is calling us to go deeper.

In preparation for this we invite you to *gather six items [stones, buttons, seashells or other objects]*, for each person in your household. These objects will represent our prayers for the season. You are welcome to place them in a bowl or glass so they are easily accessible as you join in with worship from home.

- Feb 14 - Baptism
- Feb 21 - Lent 1 Called to deep Relationship
- Feb 28 - Lent 2 Called to deep Commitment
- Mar 7 - Lent 3 Called to deep Wisdom
- Mar 14 - Lent 4 Called to deep Healing
- Mar 21 - Lent 5 Called to deep Growth
- Mar 28 - Lent 6 Called to deep Hope
- Apr 2 - Good Friday
- Apr 4 - Easter - Called to deep Living

Donations for the church can be dropped off at Don and Grace Fehr's home at **85 Martin Crescent**. Place your donation in the designated box. PLEASE NOTE THEIR NEW ADDRESS, and don't leave your donation at Don and Grace's former residence.

FROM the PASTOR: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert

On February 17, Ash Wednesday, we begin our journey of Lent, our journey towards Good Friday and our journey towards Easter. I am looking forward to Lent this year, not only because I find the worship themes that we have chosen inspiring, but also because Lent is such a good opportunity to refocus and recalibrate our lives of faith. It is an intentional time to draw our attention back to the scriptures and the stories of Jesus.

This year our worship theme for lent is "*Deep calls to Deep*" from Psalm 42:7. Each week we will explore the ways that God is calling us to go deeper, in our relationships, in wisdom and in healing. Each week we will invite you to go deeper into the theme by joining us in a response ritual during this worship time. In preparation for this we invite you to *gather six items [stones, buttons, seashells or other objects]*, for each person in your household. These objects will represent our prayers for the season. You are welcome to place them in a bowl or glass so they are easily accessible as you join in with worship from home.

In an effort to stay more connected and deepen our connections with one another, we are also inviting you to share any prayer requests or prayers of response that you might have with us as pastors. If it is appropriate, we would also include these in our worship services.

Last year during Lent our world went through some dramatic changes that none of us could have anticipated. Who knows what sort of personal or communal changes for renewal might be possible this year.

Jr Youth

- Feb 9, 7pm – Movie Night

Sr Youth

- Feb 12, 7pm – Movie Night & Lent Reflection

Berghaler Mennonite Church of Altona 117 2ND Street NW Altona, MB R0G 0B1
Web Page Address: abchurchcommunity.ca Office: 324-6717 E-mail: office@abchurch.ca
Worship Services available online at: abchurch.libsyn.com Facebook: ABC community
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324-5990 cell 1-204-771-3406 marktd@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, cell 304-6119 viriniagr@abchurch.ca
Assoc Pastor of Youth Min: Josh Janzen, 204-502-1991, cell 1-402-631-3481 joshj@abchurch.ca
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Amanda Wiens, 324-6719 amandaw@abchurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Next Sunday, February 14** we will celebrate the baptism of Kelsey Driedger and Seth Klassen and receive them as members of our congregation! The service will be live-streamed at 10:30am.
- **Feb 21, 1pm – ABC Annual General Meeting via ZOOM.** Report books have been emailed. Paper/hard copies of the book are available by calling Susan at the Church Office.
- **Mar 6 - Mennonite Church Manitoba Annual Gathering 2021 -** online. If you are interested in being a delegate on behalf of ABC at the MCM Gathering 2021, please call the Church Office 324-6717, by Feb 12.
- **Daily Bread** devotionals have arrived at the Church Office. Pick up a copy at your convenience during office hours [9am-noon, 1-3pm].
- **CD's to borrow** –The church now owns CD's of songs from the *Sing the Journey* and *Sing the Story* hymnal supplements as well as from the new hymnal *Voices Together*. We also have a few copies of the new hymnal at church. If you would like to borrow any of these please be in touch with Susan at the church office.
- **Tuesday morning coffee** – join us at 10am via ZOOM.
- **The pastors** are still working from home during critical code red. You are welcome to be in touch by phone or email. Susan will be in the office so you are also welcome to call the church. The facility will be closed to visitors during the code red period.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mennonite Church Manitoba – mennochurch.mb.ca 204-896-1616

- **Mar 6, 9am-12 noon online - Come learn about your regional and nationwide ministries at the 2021 Mennonite Church Manitoba Annual Gathering.** Delegates should register through their church office. Non-delegates are most welcome, but we're asking you to register on the MCM website or by calling the MCM Office. 204-896-1616 mennochurch.mb.ca .
- **Camps with Meaning** Summer Staff applications are on the CwM website. Visit www.campswithmeaning.org and follow the Summer links.

Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba – manitoba@mccmb.ca

- This February join the Great Winter Warm-up from home! We're celebrating all things comforters - from the compassionate people who make blankets to the families who receive them. Get involved by creating a comforter at home, sponsoring a warm blanket as a Valentine's gift for a friend, or by sharing your comforter stories with us on social media.
- Learn more at mccmb.ca/Great-Winter-Warm-up.

Mennonite Disaster Service - ecomunications@mds.mennonite.net

- **Behind the Hammer** is now available in a digital version. It offers additional content not available in the print version. Access the digital version on your phone, tablet, or laptop. Subscribe to upcoming issues here: <https://mds.mennonite.net/e-mail-and-newsletters/>

Mennonite Collegiate Institute – mciblues.net

- **Feb 11, 7pm - MCI Virtual Open House.** Learn more about MCI by attending our 1-hour Live Virtual Open House on Feb 11, 7 pm. Hear from staff about MCI programs, student life, and tour our school - from the beautiful performing arts center, down the halls of our academic wing and into the dormitory. The online session will also allow time to ask questions directly to MCI staff and students about the application process, student bursaries, extra-curricular activities, or any other areas of interest. To receive the link to this event, email sophiegerbrandt@mciblues.net or visit MCI Social Media for more information. (@mciadmissions on Instagram).
- **Considering MCI for the 2021-22 school year?** New students who submit an application by March 15th will share in \$25,000 of available tuition support. One lucky applicant will also receive their first year of tuition FREE! Visit: www.mciblues.net/admissions/new-student-incentive/ or contact our Student Recruitment Associate, Sophie Gerbrandt, at sophiegerbrandt@mciblues.net

Canadian Mennonite University – cmu.ca

- **Feb 10, 4pm – CMU's Wednesday Webinar** entitled *So you want to write a winning scholarship essay...* It can be challenging to find time to apply and write a scholarship essay in the midst of busy schedules and school assignments. This Webinar will help steer you in the right direction. Tune in for helpful tips to elevate your writing and to understand more fully what awards committee readers are looking for. Increase the likelihood of scholarship money being awarded to you! Register at www.cmu.ca/webinar.
- **Feb 24, 7-8:30pm - Face2Face | Who Cares? The elderly among us...** A global pandemic is shining a light on our assumptions about the elderly among us. COVID-19 has exposed cracks in our systems of care, and shed light on our understandings of aging, revealing how we value older adults in our communities. How might we listen anew to the voice and resilience of older adults, and how could such listening reshape our imagination and understanding? Join us on Zoom for a panel conversation with a Personal Care Home Executive, along with a number of seniors, including an Indigenous Elder.