

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of
ALTONA

Sunday, April 14, 2024 10:30 am

*"They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth
will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."
Isaiah 11:9*

Gathering and Praise

Announcements

Hymn The Mountain of God

Call to Worship and Prayer

Hymn Here I Am To Worship

Entering God's Story

Offering Lord I Life Your Name On High

Children's Story

Scripture 1 Corinthians 15:20-28, Isaiah 11:6-9

Sermon The Hope of God Filling

Responding in Faith

Hymn Same Power

ABC Conversations with Wayne Loeppky

Prayer for the Church and the World

Benediction

Hymn Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck **Worship Leading:** Jolene Friesen-Stoesz

Music: Worship Team **Children's Story:** Kristin Falk

Art: Jolene Friesen-Stoesz

Over the next few weeks our worship series will explore the question:
Christ is Risen, so what? This is an opportunity to delve into what the
resurrection of Jesus means for our lives, for the church, and for the world.

April 7. Speaker: Rick Neufeld

April 14. Speaker: Mark

April 21: Speaker: Virginia

April 28: Speaker: Terrell

FROM THE PASTOR: Terrell Wiebe

Where do you belong? Or perhaps another way of asking that question
is, "In what kinds of places do you find belonging?" With friends?
Family? Sports teams? The coffee shop? Choir? Book study? Work?
School? The seniors centre?

I recently read the quote, "True belonging celebrates the fullness of who
you are, all of it." I take that to mean being able to be fully oneself in a
community. So, do you have true belonging in any of your communities?

What about the church? Is our church a place of true belonging for you?
Increasingly, people are choosing not to take part in a congregation,
even if they might still identify as followers of Jesus. There was a time
when I would have deemed that an impossible road to take. I remember
once saying something like "You can't be a follower of Jesus if you are
not part of a faith community!!!" Since then, my views have softened to
allow for shades of grey amidst what I once thought was a black and
white issue. While, to me, it seems a difficult road of faith, I can
recognize the experience of those who have been hurt by the church
and no longer connect with a congregational body but still see
themselves as followers of Jesus. There are many different reasons given
by people who no longer connect with faith communities, but we should
recognize that a failure by the church to offer true belonging is one of
those reasons.

Our family has found true belonging at ABC. In my next "From the
pastor" I will share more about what that looks like for us. For now, I am
left pondering what it is that makes me feel like I belong. I am also
wondering what others are feeling. Is this a community of true
belonging for you? How can we be a congregation that ensures we
celebrate the fullness of each other so that each one of us feels we
belong? And how can we model a posture of welcome so that all whom
we invite can find belonging here?

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona

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Worship Services available online at: abchurchcommunity.ca

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Assoc. Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, C 304.6119 viriniagr@abchurch.ca

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries: Terrell Wiebe, 204.216.0058,
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CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer and Praise:

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

Andrew Rempel- April 14, Glenys Voth- April 15, Tim Fast- April 19

Hospitalized: Pete Heinrichs at the Altona Health Centre.

Hilda Hamm from our church family passed away on Sunday, April 7. We are invited to remember her and her family in our prayers. The funeral service was held on Saturday April 13 at our church.

International Witness: Join Mennonites in Burkina Faso in thanking God for a successful youth camp! Participants spent 5 days of teaching and reflection on three themes: relying on God, developing an entrepreneurial spirit, and preparing for married life. Josué Coulibaly, national youth pastor, reported that many of the youth were sad to leave each other after this intense time of learning together.

This week at ABC:

Sun. Apr. 14, Sunday School for all ages.

Tue. Apr. 16, 10:30 am: Coffee with the church staff.

Tue. Apr. 16, 7-9: Senior Youth - Youth Talk Night: God Loves Your Weird. Special guest appearance from the weirdest person Terrell knows!

Wed. Apr. 17, 7-9: Junior Youth - Ask Terrell Anything Night, and church wide games.

Brunch Church on May 5! Start time: 9:15. End time: noon-ish. Our meal is a fundraiser in support of the kid's camp at Matheson Island which our youth will be leading this summer. Breakfast will be provided by the youth involved. Our speaker will be *David Scott, who is an Ojibwe Traditional Knowledge Keeper and Indigenous environmental expert from Swan Lake First Nation.* David will be speaking to us about the significance of our land for Indigenous people, the historic relationships between Mennonites and Indigenous people, and how we can take steps toward reconciliation. It is our hope that David's sharing will guide us on the learning journey we began with the blanket exercise at our last Brunch Church. This Brunch Church will be a joint event with Altona Mennonite Church. Since AMC is also a partner in the relationship with Matheson Island and has some youth involved in the summer camp, they have accepted the invitation to join us!

Camp sponsorship for campers or staff application deadline April 30, 2024.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many of the community announcements have posters in the lobby for more extensive information.

Altona MCC thrift store: Would you consider volunteering at Altona MCC Thrift? Help is needed in the Clothing Department. Your responsibilities could include sorting, pricing or hanging clothes. Availability on Monday mornings is important. Work is also available on other days and in different departments. Please contact Dave Rempel in person at the shop for more information or Phone: 204-324-8323; Email: altonamcc@gmail.com

Altona and Area Family Resource Centre: From Apr. 29-May 5, Altona Tim Hortons will be supporting AAFC as their first Smile Cookie Campaign. People who purchase the Smile Cookie campaign will have 100% of their money going towards AAFC. The order deadline is May 5. Contact Nina aafrc1998@gmail.com or call 324.2352.

MCC: Are you still thinking about SALT? Applications are now accepted until April 30! SALT is a *free* eleven-month program for adults 18-30 with MCC, beginning in August. You will immerse yourself in a new culture, serve a community, gain real-world skills and grow in ways you never imagined. Visit mcc.org/salt for more information, [browse our open positions](#), or [start the application process](#) today!

CommonWord: Borrow from a carefully curated collection of Anabaptist and related resources – and receive them at no cost! We also pay the return postage. Visit www.commonword.ca and peruse over 8,000 borrowable items.

MCM: Voices Together in worship workshop: The May 10/11 gathering to resource worship planners, leaders, pastors and musicians is coming together. Registration will open April 16. Cost: \$65 before May 1, \$80 after. www.mennochurch.mb.ca/worship. If you are interested in attending this/carpooling, please contact Virginia.

MCI: Save the date for MCI's Spring Fundraiser Coffee House! Friday, May 3 at 7:30 pm in Buhler Hall foyer. Come for a variety of musical performances, including current student groups and local artists/alumni, such as Orlando and Grace Sukkau! There will also be tasty desserts. See you there!