

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of ALTONA

Sunday, November 10, 2024, 10:30 am

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Matthew 5:9

Gathering and Praise

Announcements

Hymn We Dream of a Turning VT 209

Call to Worship and Prayer

Hymn Be a Sower VT 789

Entering God's Story

Offering

Time with Children

Hymn As the Waters Rise around Us VT 708

(vs 1-3 solo vs 4 congregation)

Scripture Matthew 5:38-48

Sermon Jesus, Peace and Imagination

Responding in Faith

Hymn This Is My Song VT 710

ABC Conversation with Sarah Dueck

Prayer for the Church and the World

Benediction

Hymn There is a Wild Hope in the Wind VT 828

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

* * * * *

Sermon: Mark Tiessen-Dyck

Worship Leading: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert and Julia Wiens

Music: Hilda Franz, Andrew Richert and Ang Loepky

Children's Story: Amanda Wiens

* * * * *

Worship Calendar:

November 17. Speaker: Virginia

November 24. Memorial Sunday. Speaker: Mark

December 1. First Advent. Speaker: Virginia

FROM THE PASTOR - Terrell Wiebe

"For the first time ever, I heard God speak!" That was the testimony of one of the hundred plus youth who attended the Youth Orbit Conference hosted by Mennonite Collegiate Institute last weekend. This declaration was met with deafening applause and shouts of joy from all in attendance.

Throughout the conference, youth and leaders were given the chance to engage in listening prayer exercises. While so much of our prayer life typically involves us speaking to God, listening prayer reminds us that prayer is a conversation. We talk, and God talks. Listening prayer is about intentionally positioning ourselves to hear God speak to us through images, words, ideas, or physical sensations. Listening prayer expects a response from God.

I first encountered the idea of listening prayer almost twenty years ago and I admit to feeling uncomfortable at the time with some aspects. How did I know if what I was seeing or feeling was from God? Was I just making things up or was God really responding to me? And yet, both myself and those for whom I was praying found great comfort and inspiration in God's responses to me. A grounding text for this type of prayer were the words of Jesus in John 10 which say that his sheep will hear and know his voice.

I was grateful for my listening prayer experience again this weekend as a reminder that we do not worship a God who is silent, but a God who speaks; and our scripture is not merely a history text about an ancient religion but a library containing centuries of firsthand testimony that God continually communicates with God's people. I was also inspired by my time at Youth Orbit as I witnessed the young people of our churches being filled with the Holy Spirit and eagerly seeking the voice of God to guide them as a shepherd guides their sheep. Thanks be to God!

Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona
Web Page Address: abchurchcommunity.ca Office: 324.6717
E-mail: office@abchurch.ca Facebook: ABC community
Worship Services available online at: abchurchcommunity.ca
Lead Pastor: Mark Tiessen-Dyck, 324.5990, C 1.204.771.3406, marktd@abchurch.ca
Assoc. Pastor: Virginia Gerbrandt Richert, C 304.6119 virginiaagr@abchurch.ca
Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries: Terrell Wiebe, 204.216.0058, C 204.417.8200, terrellw@abchurch.ca

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER AND PRAISE:

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

Eva Schroeder- Nov. 11, Verna (A.K.) Heinrichs- Nov. 12,

Claire Ginter- Nov. 14, Susan (Anton) Dueck- Nov. 16

Hospitalized: Art Dyck and Henry Klassen are in the Altona Health Centre.

Congratulations to grandparents Bob and Marilyn Friesen! Sloane Bobbi was born to Ian and Krista Friesen on Sept. 23. She is a sister to Rhett, Caris, Boyd and Solomon.

Congratulations to Ben Dueck and Gord Sawatzky who will be receiving special recognition for their work with the Altona Field of Dreams at the 2025 Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame. The formal induction ceremony will be held at a gala banquet in Morden, home of the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame in June.

International Witness: Werner and Joanne De Jong are entering their final week at Meserete Kristos Seminary. Pray that they will be able to find ways to celebrate the years they have served as well as say their goodbyes. Praise God for the impact their presence has had on students and colleagues.

THIS WEEK AT ABC:

Sun. Nov. 10, 9:15 am: Sunday School for all ages

Sun. Nov. 10, 10:30 am: Worship service.

Tue. Nov. 12, 10:30 am: Coffee with the Church staff.

Tue. Nov. 12, 7-9: Sr. Youth - Following a unique God. Plus the long awaited freezie game!

Wed. Nov. 14, 7-8:30: Jr. Youth - Why should I follow Jesus; can't I just say I believe in him? Plus paper airplanes and snack.

Wed. Nov. 13, 7-8:15: Ventures for grades 3-6

Thur. Nov. 14, 2 pm: Book study at the Gardens on Tenth MPR.

Please make these changes to your Contact List booklet:

- Email change for Trevor and Jolene Friesen-Stoesz: jfriesenstoesz@gmail.com, tstoesz3@hotmail.com
- Gail and Tom Braun (16), 10 Martin Cres. R0G 0B2, 324.6781, G cell 304.1747, braungail24@gmail.com, brauntom1@hotmail.com
- Peter and Gert Hildebrand, 17-223 5th St. NE (GOT manor), R0G 0B7

Terrell is seeking help from the congregation for a Menno on the Run youth event on November 20th. Needed are at least three homes within running distance of the church that will serve as "safe houses" for the youth to drop in on over the course of the evening (7:15-8:45ish). Each house will be given some Bible study/Mennonite history material to cover. A snack can be dropped off or the host can prepare a snack to serve. Please let Terrell know if you and your home are available.

The updated Contact List booklets are ready. They are available in the sanctuary lobby as well as the office lobby for pick up.

From your Church Council: Here's a reminder of the upcoming ABC fall meeting on Dec 1, We are planning for the meeting to coincide with the next potluck lunch. This will be primarily an information session and we look forward to sharing and discussing the activities here at ABC. If you have any suggested topics to be included, please reach out to any member of Church Council.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Southern MB Choral Society concert "Journeys", Sun. Nov. 17 3 pm at ABC. Ben Kroeker, conductor and Loren Hiebert, pianist.

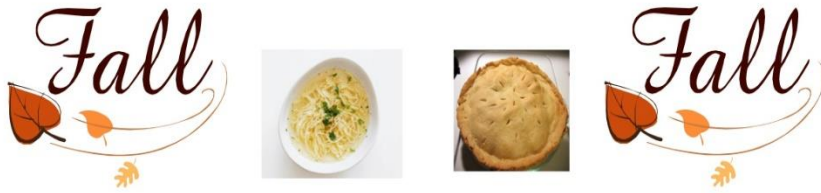
MCI invites you to join us on Mon, Nov. 18 at 7 pm for the AGM. We will meet in MCI's chapel. We hope to see you there!

Recovery of Hope is hosting speaker, Dr. Gordon Neufeld who will be speaking on "What's happening to our kids?: The current crisis of wellbeing" on Nov. 19, 7 pm, at the Centre Culturel Franco-Manitobain. Tickets are \$25 and are available on Eventbrite. For more information, call 204-477-4673, or email info@recoveryofhope.ca.

Altona Curling Club: One day fundraising bonspiel to help raise money to provide medical equipment for BTHC, on Nov. 16. For more information visit: K4k.akaraisin.com.

Empty Stocking Fund please register by calling 431-342-0525 or email rhinelandesf@gmail.com. Deadline for registration is Nov 30, 2024, delivery date, Dec 14, 2014. Someone must be home to accept gifts. To donate to the Empty Stocking Fund go to Access Credit Union.

Pray for our Congregations: Pembina Mennonite Fellowship
Prayers for our new group configurations for the next 2 years and prayers for church financial decisions.



Soup & Pie

**** gluten free & dairy free options will be available****

Thursday, November 14th

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

at Altona Bergthaler

Mennonite Church

All proceeds will go to support missions:

- International Witness Ethiopia Ministry

(Werner & Joanne De Jong)

- M.C.C. Disaster Relief

- Camps with Meaning

