

BERGTHALER MENNONITE CHURCH of ALTONA

Sunday, October 27, 2024, 9:15 am

Welcome to Brunch Church

**A Tentative Schedule:**

9:15: Brunch begins (it's a potluck so bring some food!)

9:15-10:15: Visiting and eating and drinking coffee

10:15: Clearing tables

10:30: Worship

10:45: Sharing from David Scott (there will be an opportunity for questions)

Closing words and blessing.



*We extend our gratitude and welcome to David Scott for joining our Brunch Church and sharing his knowledge and wisdom with us!*

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**Worship Calendar:**

November 3. Speaker: Virginia

November 10. Peace Sunday. Speaker: Mark

November 17. Speaker: Virginia

November 24. Memorial Sunday. Speaker: Mark

**FROM THE PASTOR – Terrell Wiebe**

Water does not freeze flat. That is one of the first lessons to making good curling ice. After a flood, when we freeze a new layer of water on top of the ice, ice technicians like me will drive a scraper (pictured below) up and down each sheet of ice a minimum of 18 times before the ice is flat enough for curling. To the naked eye, however, ice after a flood looks flat. One might think it would be perfectly fine to start playing on right away. It is only with the use of the scraper's long sharp blade that you can tell the ice is far from true.

A scraper blade cuts along the surface of the ice, creating a build up of snow along the top of the blade. By watching the way snow builds up across the blade as it scrapes, one can tell if the ice is flat or not. This is called "reading the blade" and is necessary for creating ice that curls consistently and does what it is supposed to.

There are times in my faith journey when I think it would be helpful to have something that revealed plainly where I need leveling out. Some tool that pointed out where I am ignorant or failing and also where I am on the right path and succeeding.

As a congregation, perhaps events like today's brunch church and our involvements in locations like The Community Exchange and the Community Meal can serve as indicators of where we need to grow and where we are true. I hope we will continue to listen to a diversity of voices from both inside and outside the church and expose ourselves to new experiences that can reveal where we are as a congregation and who we want to be on our journey of faith.



## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **PRAYER AND PRAISE:**

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

Bill Driedger- October 29, Pete Schroeder- November 2

**Congratulations** to Gavin Wiens and Lanea Friesen on their engagement. We wish them God's blessings as they prepare for marriage.

**Our love and sympathy** are extended to Myrian Arias, Pablo Vallejos, Martin and Valentina Arias Vallejos at the loss of Myrian's father, Victor Hugo Arias Agama.

**International Witness:** "One Year Later" - Mennonite Church Canada Palestine Israel Network highly recommends the James Graff Memorial Lecture 2024 on Monday, November 4, 7 p.m. EST, organized by the Canadian Friends of Sabeel. Event is in-person (Toronto) or online. Pre-registration is required: <https://www.friendsofsabeel.ca/updates/james-graff-memorial-lecture-2024>.

### **THIS WEEK AT ABC:**

**Sun. Oct. 27, 9:15:** Brunch Church. No Sunday school.

**Tue. Oct. 29, 10:30 am:** Coffee with the Church staff

**Wed. Oct. 29, 7- 8:30:** Junior Youth - Glow night - Bible Study, dance, games - All with a glow in the dark theme!

**Wed. Oct. 30, 7-8:15:** Ventures for grades 3-6.

**Thur. Oct. 31, 2 pm:** Book study at the Gardens on Tenth MPR.

**Fri. Nov. 1, 1:30 - 3:30:** Senior Youth - No school this day so drop in at South Wing for games, snacks, a movie??, conversation, ping pong, or whatever you want,

**Pastor Mark** is on vacation from October 30 – November 5.

**There will not** be adult Sunday school next Sunday November 3.

**The Home and World commission's** annual soup and pie fundraiser is Thur. Nov. 14 from 4:30-6:30. If you are willing to be a pie maker, please call or text Marilyn @324.3814. Other volunteers are needed as well for a variety of tasks and there is a sign-up sheet provided in the lobby.

**From Finance and Maintenance:** Sept 30 marked the end of the third quarter for the Bergthaler Mennonite Church fiscal calendar. As per our

general practice, here is a quarterly year to date update from the Finance and Trusteeship commission. The gap between revenue and expenses continues to widen. Offering is approximately \$5000.00 behind 2023 year to date totals at \$257,164.00 while expenses are tracking at \$41,000 dollars ahead of the 2023 fiscal year largely due to the release of third quarter outreach payments and salaries. It should be noted that most commission figures are well within budget, while rental revenue is well ahead of 2023 totals. Historically, congregational giving increased significantly in the fourth quarter leading up to Christmas. We invite you to support the worship and outreach here at ABC.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**The Altona and area youth groups** invite people of all ages to a story and worship night with Adult and Teen Challenge on Wednesday, November 6th from 7:00 - 8:30 at the South Park Mennonite Brethren Church. Join us to worship together and hear testimonies. No cost, but there will be an opportunity for donation.

**MCM:** Restorative Justice Week Event: Seeking the Light inside. Presentations by Hank Dixon, former director of Initiatives for Just Communities and the Hon. Matt Wiebe, Minister of Justice for Manitoba and a display of art by inmates on Seeking the Light Inside. Sponsored by the Justice and Corrections Committee of the Manitoba Multifaith Council at the Lutheran Church of the Cross, 560 Arlington St. Winnipeg, Nov. 18, 10:00-11:30.

**Altona Health Care Auxiliary Annual Meeting:** Tue, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. at the Altona Memorial Health Centre Multi Purpose Room. Everyone welcome. Refreshments will be service. New members are welcome.

**MCI's Soup & Pie and Fall Concert – Nov. 8,** 5:30-7:00 in the gymnasium, and stay for our fall concert at 7:30 in Buhler Hall with performances by MCI's ensembles and choirs. Meal is by donation.

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### **Bergthaler Mennonite Church of Altona**

**Web Page Address:** [abchurchcommunity.ca](http://abchurchcommunity.ca) **Office:** 324.6717

**E-mail:** [office@abchurch.ca](mailto:office@abchurch.ca) **Facebook:** ABC community

**Worship Services available online at:** [abchurchcommunity.ca](http://abchurchcommunity.ca)

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