



# WELLESLEY MENNONITE CHURCH

## INFORMATION SHEET - December 27, 2020



***On Sunday morning we will worship together from the safety of our homes. A link for the worship service will be emailed.***

**THIS WEEK** See WMC calendar go to: <http://www.welleslymennonite.ca/calendar/>  
Staff hours will be irregular next week. Emails will be checked occasionally.

**Birthday Celebrations:**

**Households of Faith:**

### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**WMC Board of Directors** made the decision this week to refrain from in-person Sunday morning worship services beginning December 26 for a minimum of four weeks. This will be reviewed in January.

**Friday Prayers** will commence on Friday, January 8th.

We invite you to give to WMC's **Congregation Christmas Sharing Fund**. Money donated to this fund will be distributed by the Care Team. If you are aware of a need we could respond to, please bring your concern to [Pastor Kara](#) or a Care Team member. Please designate your cheque or e transfer 'Christmas Sharing Fund'.

In the spirit of Christmas, Missions Committee invites the congregation to participate in a **special Christmas Giving Project**. Due to Covid19 we are unable to collect tangible items. Instead we are asking for monetary donations only which will be donated to the House of Friendship. Your donations may be made in the same manner as your regular church offering, that is, e-transfer, cheque, or in person at Sunday service. **Please be sure to designate the donation as being for the House of Friendship**. May you be richly blessed as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

Please find attached to the info page a newsletter from **Greg and Tracy McLean**. WMC supports the McLeans and their work in Cameroon with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

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### CALL TO PRAYER by Elders of WMC (Dan Lebold, Terry Gerber & Delores Schwartzentruber)

AWAY IN A MANGER- This is the time of year we celebrate the Birth of Jesus. There were a lot of strange and uncommon things with the birth of Jesus. Not the least of which is he was Born in a stable..... AWAY in a Manger. Luke 2:6-7 says that when Mary gave birth to Jesus she wrapped him in a cloths and laid him in a Manger--- there was NO room in the INN. No room for the pregnant couple, No room for the birth of a Child and NO room for the birth of the Son of God. This seems a little crazy, unsettling and uncomfortable. Does this situation parallel the Crazy, unsettling and uncomfortable time we are currently battling thru during this time of COVID. We just found out that we are temporally out of our INN (Church)..... AWAY. That feels strange again. As we read further in the Birth of Jesus we find out that things actually turned out according to the way things were planned. Let's ponder this and try to understand and comprehend it. GOD during this time of upheaval, uncomfortableness, and time AWAY help us recognize thru the birth of Jesus we can find Peace, Joy and HOPE for the future. AMEN.

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### Offering Report for December 20, 2020:

Total Offering: \$8487.00  
Regular Offering: \$54.25.00  
PAO Offering: \$1502.00  
Food Cupboard: \$500.00  
Christmas Sharing Fund: \$890.00  
House of Friendship: \$170.00

As you finalize your givings to WMC for 2020, please remember to make your donation by December 31st at 12 noon to be eligible for a tax receipt. Thank you for your support in 2020!

## THANK YOU

### JANUARY CALENDAR

Tuesday 5th, 6:00 p.m.- Elders meeting  
Thursday 7th - Care Team  
Friday 8th, 11:30 a.m.- Friday Prayer  
Tuesday 12th, 7:00 p.m.- Board of Director's meeting  
Thursday 14th. 5:15 p.m.- Worship Committee meeting  
Sunday 31st- Annual Budget/Financial meeting

### MCEC IN PRAYER:

Each week MCEC staff pray for the faith communities within our MCEC community of congregations. We invite you to pray with us for **Goshen Mennonite Church**, a church plant in MCEC.

**Pray for International Witness workers isolated from family back home.** As many of us here in Canada celebrate Christmas distanced from family, pray for International Witness workers and their families as they celebrate, while also distanced. Several of the workers have given up scheduled trips back to Canada to see family in the last year in order to keep working in their country of ministry. Pray that we all experience God's promise of Emmanuel.

**Prayer for church and leaders in Ethiopia and Eritrea.** Please continue to pray for the situation in Tigray, Ethiopia. Pray for unity within the Meserete Kristos Church that includes all ethnic groups in Ethiopia. Pray for safety for the Eritrean refugees in camps in that area. Pray that God's peace will reign and that leaders will be given wisdom to act for the good of all.

**Bethlehem hard hit by absence of tourism during pandemic.** As we sing and read about Bethlehem this season, pray for the ministry of Bethlehem Bible College. Pray for the people of Bethlehem, hard hit by the absence of tourism in this time of COVID-19. Pray that once again the message of peace will be proclaimed across the hills.

### BROADER AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

**My View From Here** - An MCEC VLOG from Leah Reesor-Keller. [My Christmas Prayer / Ma prière de Noël](#)

**Wellesley Blood Donor Clinic**- Monday, January 4 2:30-8:30 p.m. at the Wellesley Community Centre. Book now at [blood.ca](http://blood.ca) or call 1 888 2 DONATE

**Wellesley Lions Club Tree of Lights.** Light a bulb in memory or appreciation of someone special. Funds raised support meals on Wheels and The Wellesley Family Resource. To donate e-transfer to [wellionstreeoflight@gmail.com](mailto:wellionstreeoflight@gmail.com) or mail cheques payable to Tree of Lights to Wellesley Lions Club, PO Box 281, Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0 or at CIBC, Pym's, Esso, Schmidtsville and Home Hardware. Email [wellionstreeoflight@gmail.com](mailto:wellionstreeoflight@gmail.com) to request tax receipt for \$10 or more.

**The December edition of *On the Level*** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue, we offer a timely prayer for 2020, A Prayer Amidst Disaster, written by an MDS staff member; read how volunteers are improving the space for homeless in Idaho; and be sure to save the date for our virtual MDS Annual Celebration. [Click on this link to read more:](#) <https://conta.cc/37n9EGS>

Greetings in this very unusual advent season from your friends at **Pastors in Exile (PiE)**. The staff and board at PiE have created a resource to share called "[Meaningful Celebration with COVID and the Planet in Mind.](#)" Creating this resource is PiE's good deed for [Kindred Credit Union's 12days4good program.](#)

**Prioritize UN Declaration Legislation-** You're invited to join MCC in supporting the Government of Canada's legislation around the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), being tabled in Parliament this December. MCC believes that passing a legislative framework to implement UNDRIP is an excellent step toward ensuring the human rights of Indigenous Peoples are respected and honoured in Canada. If you agree, we invite you to contact Minister of Justice David Lametti and your MP to urge them to fulfill the government's commitment to reconciliation by making every effort to bring this legislation to Royal Assent. Visit [mcccanada.ca/take-action](http://mcccanada.ca/take-action) to use MCC's convenient letter-writing tool to amplify the calls of Indigenous neighbours.

**New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale:** Each year, because of the incredible support of our community, funds from food and craft sales, the quilt auction and sponsorships, the NHMRS is able to donate approximately \$300,000 to support the relief, development and peacebuilding programs of MCC. This year we find ourselves significantly short of that goal, at a time when needs are even greater around the world. We need your help to bridge the gap. If you would have at-

tended the Relief Sale and purchased tea balls, pies or meals from our amazing volunteer vendors, or wonderful treasures from the various craft tents, would you consider donating what you would have spent that day? Any amount you would feel led to give will help recover what has been lost due to the global pandemic. Donations can be made online at [nhmrs.com/donate](http://nhmrs.com/donate). Thank you for your ongoing support of the NHMRS and our partnership with MCC Ontario.

**Did you miss the virtual Peace Conference and Centennial Celebration on Nov 20 and 21?** Watch the recordings at [mcco.ca/peace-conference-recordings](http://mcco.ca/peace-conference-recordings).

**Contact CommonWord for a Free Study** - The Government of Canada has introduced legislation (Bill C-15) to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. To educate and raise support Mennonite Church Canada is offering this study for free - <http://www.commonword.ca/go/2207>.

**An open call for Parents or Guardian with children ages 6-13-** An interactive workbook for families focusing on developing peaceful relationships in the home is being developed. Restorative Justice Intern, Claire Smith, is conducting short 15-20 minute interviews to gain an understanding of the current needs of young families to help develop healthy family relationships. If you would like to participate, contact Claire at [clairesmith@mcco.ca](mailto:clairesmith@mcco.ca).

**Christmas at CMU Highlights!** Enjoy the music of the season and be drawn into the spirit of Advent with a curated selection from Christmas at CMU. Go to [www.cmu.ca/christmas](http://www.cmu.ca/christmas) for more.

**Through this Place** is a monthly e-newsletter 'inside, outside and all about CMU'. If you want to be inspired and connected more with stories from the CMU learning community, subscribe to Through This Place at [www.cmu.ca/newsletter](http://www.cmu.ca/newsletter).

Check out and follow WMC on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/wellesleymennonite) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/wellesleymennonite) !

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