



WELLESLEY MENNONITE CHURCH

INFORMATION SHEET - March 3, 2024

Web Site: www.wellesleymennonite.ca

Supply Pastor Clare Lebold clare@wellesleymennonite.ca

Elders: Dan L
Delores S
Donna J

Administrative Assistant: Susan Roes office@wellesleymennonite.ca 519-656-2700



We have the option of worshipping in-person at WMC or worshipping from the safety of our homes. For those who are unable to attend in-person worship, you are welcome to join the live service through Zoom. Please log in before 9:30 a.m. through the link and mute your microphone. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85140408023>

In-person worship: Please do not attend the service if you are sick. If uncertain about symptoms click on the following [self assessment](#).

Order of Worship *Christ Among Us, Showing Us Justice*

Gathering

Words of Welcome and Announcements
Land Acknowledgement
Musical Interlude: "Be Still and Know"
Call to Worship:

All: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to you, O God.

One: We speak because you spoke first, bringing voice to the brightness of the sun and singing to the airy darkness of the sky. You spoke this earth from end to end, and speaking must have given you pleasure, for you said, "It was good."

All: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to you, O God.

One: Year after year you have poured forth speech: passing stories and statutes down through hands and lips. From you we learned to speak, and speaking, we spoke to you – singing songs of consolation that would become your psalms to us; writing poems our children's children would hear as the voice of God.

All: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to you, O God.

One: Your law, O Lord, is perfect. Your Word is the one that endures. We seek the grammar of your justice in the words that you spoke before. Speak here now; speak here once more.

All: And may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to you, O God.

Amen

Opening Prayer

Opening Song: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise - VT 98

Hearing God's Word

Isaiah 58: 6-12

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

Song: God of Grace and God of Glory - VT 716

Acts 17: 24-28 Lyn Barnaby

Sermon: **"Getting in on what God is up to!"** Shelley Campagnola – Executive Director – COMPASS

Responding to God's Word

Song of Response: Take My Life, and Let it Be – VT 759

Sharing our Offerings

Congregational Prayer

Celebration Jar

Blessing & Sending

Sending Song: Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us - VT 718

Prayer of Confession: (based on Psalm 19)

One: We often miss the beauty in your work, God.

Many: Forgive our distracted hearts.

One: When we put our trust in other things,

Many: remind us of your love and care.

ALL: Bring joy to us once again. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in your sight, our Rock and our Redeemer.

Benediction

Junior Sunday School during the worship service: Our Lenten Theme is "Walk His Ways" The Parable of The Two Sons (daughters). Come and join us for some games, music, crafts, puppet play and of course, there is always a snack!

Worship Leader: Clare Lebold

Pianist:

Song Leaders:

Offertory:

Ushers:

Christian Ed Time: "Filling Our Branches" Led by the Search Committee.

THIS WEEK See WMC calendar go to: <http://www.wellesleymennonite.ca/calendar/>

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.– Women's Ministry event. Our guest speaker will be Christianne Dixon who owns *CDC Landscaping and Floristry* (located in the old mill by Schmidtsville Restaurant). Garden themed desserts will be served. Come and get garden inspired! Feel free to bring a friend.

Birthday Celebrations:

Households of Faith:

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND EVENTS:

How did everyone respond to filling the branches that make up our WMC faith community? Following the Service each week, **March 3rd, March 10th, and March 17th, the Search Team would like to invite further discussion around "Filling Our Branches".**

- This **Sunday, March 3rd** we will be looking more closely at our Leaves and our Blossoms - What helps us feel closer to God, and What signs of faith / life excite us the most!
- **March 10th** we will further explore what WMC, our church, brings to our community and beyond, and what we want to see happen in the future!
- **March 17th** will focus on what needs we have and what our collective expectations are for the new pastor we want to welcome here.

Senior's Event: Sunday, March 10th. *Everyone is welcome* to join WMC seniors for a noon potluck followed by crokinole! Please bring potluck food, your own plates, cutlery, mugs and crokinole boards.

Tuesday, March 12 - 8:30 am - WMC "North of 60" Men's Breakfast - Schmidtsville Restaurant.

We look forward to connecting with each of you as we share this Men's Breakfast together. Come and enjoy good food and great fellowship together. Come alone or bring a friend or two...we will always make room for more. We will also enjoy hearing from Glen Radke as he shares a Life Story. Please contact Clare or Ross if you are willing to share at a future Breakfast. **Please note: We will again be meeting in the room upstairs.** Enjoy the gift of life that God gives us each new day!

WMC's Mission Committee is sponsoring a table for eight people at **Youth Unlimited—Waterloo Oxford 2024 Banquet** Saturday, March 23, 5:30 pm @ Bethel EMC, New Dundee. Would you like to join a group and attend? Maybe your small group or committee would like a night out? Contact a member of WMC's Missions Committee if you are interested. The cost of the meal has been covered.

2024 Easter Giving Project! The Missions Committee is inviting you to support Compass Refugee Centre this Easter season. We will be hearing about their good work from Shelley Campagnola, Executive Director of Compass, on Sunday, March 3rd. You may make donations through the church until March 31st by cash, cheque or e transfer by indicating it is for 'Compass'. Thank you for your support!

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp's Annual Bowlathon is happening again this year! Please show your support by sponsoring Brad M and Jessica P, or by donating online at hiddenacres.ca/donate and select "Annual Bowlathon" from the list. Thank You!

Leadership transition plan update:

1. As announced on February 4th, the board of directors has approved hiring Paul Dyck as interim supply pastor on a 0.6 time basis. He will begin his ministry with us on April 1, 2024. Paul has many years of pastoral experience in local churches and will provide steady leadership while the search committee proceeds to lead us in the process of calling a long term pastor.
2. The search committee as previously noted will be: Lisa Neeb, Andrew Pavilonis, Dan Gingrich, Grace Oesch, and Dan Lebold. They will be in regular contact with Al Rempel from MCEC as they begin the process of seeking a permanent pastor for our congregation. Please hold them in prayer for wisdom and clear guidance as they make important decisions.
3. Thank you for engaging in this meaningful transition time through the worship services we had leading up to Lent. Don't hesitate to contact the Leadership team as you are inspired by insights, comments and questions.

Jane, Dan, Jamie

BROADER AREA NEWS AND EVENT:

All are welcome to an evening of Lenten Worship: Stations of the Cross, followed by meditative Lenten music shared by *John B. Miller and Friends* on March 2nd (Sat) at Shantz Mennonite Church (2473 Erbs Road Baden) at 7 pm. The event is free, but donations are appreciated to support the musicians.

Please join us at our next Venture club evening on Monday March 4 from 6:30 – 8:00 at Crosshill Church. Our theme for March is EASTER and Lora has a fun Egg Scavenger Hunt planned that you will not want to miss! We look forward to a fun night of games, crafts, snack & devotion surrounding our EASTER theme. All Children in grades JK to Grade 6 are welcome.

The Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir is looking to run an Adult/Parent Choir for the IMCC Spring Concert on Sunday May 5. This is an exciting chance to build community among our families and to provide interested parents and friends of IMCC an opportunity to sing on a short-term basis. **Please sign up using the following google form:** <https://forms.gle/qcMWTws19SD6j6Do7> **by March 5th.** Our first rehearsal will be on Tuesday March 19 from 6:15 - 7:15 in the sanctuary at W-K United Mennonite Church.

Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp. Monday, March 11th @ 9:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Grandparents and grandchildren in grades 1-6 are invited to camp to "Discover God through the Creative Process" with Mike Vlaming, owner of Little Creek Pottery. Join us for a day of creativity, fun and connecting! For more information or to register go to our website www.hiddenacres.ca

Prepare to be enthralled by Rockway students in grades 9-12, as they take on the world of **Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson**. With many supporting actors in the cast, these plays come to life, with British accents and all. Tickets are \$15 per person and go on sale, March 1 at rockway.ca/sherlock.

Saturday, March 9, 7:30pm: **Menno Singers with Artistic Director Brandon Leis** present 'At the Foot of the Cross,' with cellist Ben Bolt-Martin and Menno Youth Ensemble. Trillium Lutheran Church (22 Willow St., Waterloo). Tickets \$25, Child/Student \$5 at www.mennosingers.com or at the door.

WELLESLEY BLOOD DONATION EVENT, Monday, March 11 from 2 p.m.–8 p.m. Wellesley Community Centre. By appointment. Book now by calling 1 888 2 DONATE (1-888-236-6283) / www.blood.ca / GiveBlood App

Hold Me Tight Couple's Workshop– March 23rd & March 24th, 9 am-5 pm at Interfaith Counselling Centre, New Hamburg. Learn how to: acknowledge strengths in your relationship, identify negative communication patterns, skills to de-escalate conflict in your relationship and heal from past relationship injuries. More info or to sign up: 519-662-3092 or admin@interfaithcounselling.ca Limited space available - \$500/couple (please let us know if this is a barrier).

Help support Rockway's Student Tuition Assistance program by becoming a golf sponsor in our [29th Annual Golf Classic](#). Contact Chris Ainsworth, Director of Advancement, at advancement@rockway.ca to learn more.

Relief, Development and Podcast: Just Peace in Palestine and Israel- Gaza has seen so much devastation over the last few months. In [this episode](#) we are joined by Palestinian human rights lawyer and former MCC volunteer, Jonathan Kuttub, as well as Alain Epp Weaver, director of MCC's planning learning and disaster response department, to talk about the current situation and the history that has brought us to this point. MCC has continued to respond through local partners. Seth Malone and Sarah Funkhouser, MCC representatives for Jordan, Palestine and Israel, tell us how.

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate is accepting nominations to be on the **Rockway Board of Directors**. If you are a champion of Rockway and wish to apply, visit www.rockway.ca and fill out the [google form](#). If you wish to nominate

someone else, please email your suggestion at: nominations@rockway.ca

The February edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: meet Nikki Hamm Gala the Communications Coordinator for MDS Canada, learn why one woman says MDS is the light of Canada, and hear how MDS volunteers are finding additional work along the Texas border. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/4blyn7L>

Thank you for considering Beyond Housing as an extension of the mission of your church. We appreciate the role you play in helping us share news and updates with members of your congregation. Please find attached a [Summary 2023 Annual Report](#). The report includes links to a recording of our AGM held on January 30th, as well as a link to our full 2023 Annual Report.

MCEC IN PRAYER

- Please pray for the MCEC community of congregations. This week we pray for [First Mennonite Church](#) in Kitchener, ON. Rene Baergen, Sandra Baez and Liz Weber provide pastoral care for this congregation. Pray for this conventional church with an unconventional story. They are a diverse and intercultural community of Jesus followers doing their best to connect deeply with God, intentionally with each other and compassionately with the world around us.
- Pray for the MCEC Transitioning into Ministry participants as they gather next week for equipping days. Pray for Donna Kerfoot (Zion MF), Kimberly Penner (Stirling Ave. MC), Annika Krause (Mennonite Fellowship of Montreal), Zac Klassen (Bloomingtondale MC) and Janet Bauman (St. Jacobs MC) as they graduate!
- Pray for Myanmar. There have been two days of fighting in the city of Kalay, Myanmar near the Bible Missionary Church (Mennonite) Head Office and two Mennonite congregations. People have been ordered to leave. Mennonite families including the elderly and children have been displaced amid death, grief, and food shortages. The aerial bombardment was unexpected and sudden. It is not known how long the conflict will last.
- Pray for Ukraine. Church and Christian leaders of Canada call for peace as war in Ukraine enters its third year. Please join the Canadian Council of Churches in united prayer and action for peace in Ukraine. [More information.](#)
- Continue to pray as war and rumours of war resound. Pray for those who are in Gaza and for the people of Israel and of Palestine. Pray for peace. Pray for wisdom. Make us instruments of your peace: where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp Hiring for our 2024 Summer Staff Team! Are you or is someone you know looking for a summer job filled with meaning, friendships and fun? Apply to join our 2024 Summer Staff Team! Check out our website at www.hiddenacres.ca for available positions, information and to apply. Connect our Program Director, Josh Penfold at josh@hiddenacres.ca with any questions.

OFFERING REPORT - February 25, 2024

Total Offering (budget): \$2960.00

Regular Offering: \$1500.00

PAO Offering: \$1460.00

Check out and follow WMC on [facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

