



# WELLESLEY MENNONITE CHURCH

## INFORMATION SHEET - March 24, 2024

Web Site: [www.wellesleymennonite.ca](http://www.wellesleymennonite.ca)

Supply Pastor Clare Lebold [clare@wellesleymennonite.ca](mailto:clare@wellesleymennonite.ca)

Elders: Dan L  
Delores S  
Donna J

Administrative Assistant: Susan Roes [office@wellesleymennonite.ca](mailto: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*

#### *Palm Sunday: Christ Among Us, the Way of a Servant*

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Musical Interlude

Call to Worship: (adapted from Psalm 118)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

*Congregation: God's steadfast love endures forever!*

L: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

C: *God's steadfast love endures forever!*

L: May God open the gates of righteousness

C: *May we enter in, and be thankful*

L: The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

C: *This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.*

L: This is the day the Lord has made;

C: *Let us be glad and rejoice in it*

L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: *The Lord is God, and he has given us light*

L: You are our God, and we will give our thanks to you

C: *You are our God, and we will extol you*

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: *God's steadfast love endures forever!*

Opening Prayer

Opening Song: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna #313 VT

Scripture Reading: [Philippians 2:5-11](#)

Scripture Reading: [John 12: 1-8, 12-16](#)

Song: All Glory, Laud and Honour #315 VT

Scripture Reading: [John 13:1-17](#) Elaine M

Song: Christ, on the Night He Was Betrayed #491 VT

Sermon: ***Christ Among Us: The Way of a Servant*** Niamh Brown

Song of Response: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant #778 VT

Sharing our Offerings

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song: For We Are Strangers No More #409 VT

Benediction

**Worship Leader:**

**Pianist:**

**Ushers:**

**Song Leaders:**

**Christian Ed Time:** "Filling Our Branches" What needs do we have and what are our collective expectations for the new pastor we want to welcome to WMC. *This Sunday, following the service, the Search Committee will be leading in the completion of the MCEC Congregational and Pastoral Priorities worksheet - including group discussion. If you are unable to attend, we are extending the opportunity to complete the form on your own and submit by March 31st. The fillable document (attached) can be downloaded, completed and returned to Lisa N. Printed copies will be available at the church.*

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

**Monday 6:30-8:00 pm** - Kids For Christ!! Grand Prix Night...*Press on for the prize (Philippians 3:12-14).* Kids, race out to WMC for a night of songs, stories, crafts, games and snacks!

**Tuesday 2:00 p.m.**– Personnel Committee meets

**Tuesday 6:30 p.m.**- Care Team meeting

**Friday 10:00 a.m.**– *Four Places Along the Way: A 'Lessons and Hymns' Service for Good Friday - written by Niamh Brown.* If you are joining us for our Good Friday Service on Zoom, we invite you to have a cracker and juice available so that you may participate in Communion with us. May God bless you as we worship together.

**Birthday Celebrations:**

**Households of Faith:**

## **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND EVENTS:**

✿ **Easter Sunday Morning:** For those attending in-person worship, you are welcome to bring flowers for the Easter display at the front. Easter Services: Good Friday, 10 a.m.; Easter Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Let's Celebrate together that **Jesus is Risen!** **Easter Party for those up to Grade 8** - Sunday, March 31 - service begins at 9:30 am. We will invite the children downstairs during the service for *Easter stories and activities*. Please RSVP to [Lisa](#) and let us know if you plan on attending! Little ones welcome for all or part, but they made need an adult to stay. Please extend invitations to children/grandchildren!

**2024 Easter Giving Project!** The Missions Committee is inviting you to support Compass Refugee Centre this Easter season. We heard 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!

**WMC's Annual Business meeting** will be held on Sunday, May 5th. All Committees and Leadership Commissions are required to submit a report of your activities from September 1, 2023-August 31, 2024 for the annual report booklet to [Susan Roes](#) by **March 31**.

**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](http://hiddenacres.ca/donate) and select "Annual Bowlathon" from the list. Thank You!

**MCEC Annual Church Gathering, April 26 & 27, Leamington, ON.** *Inspired by Hope.* Be inspired by the hope we find in Jesus. "We need you this weekend," says Ben Cassels, MCEC moderator. "We need your voice, engagement, wisdom and prayers as we gather to be the Church." Hear stories of inspiration and experience the wonder and mystery of God. Doug Klassen, celebration of ten years of ministry impact with Legacy Initiatives Fund; welcome five new congregations and more! [Registration is now open!](#) WMC is able to send four delegates plus one youth delegate. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

**Save the Date!! June 7th to 9th - church camping weekend and outdoor worship service** and potluck. More details will follow for this fun and entertaining time of fellowship and connections in the great outdoors. Plan to pitch a tent, come with your RV/trailer or rent a cabin. Whether you come for the weekend or join in a campfire and/or the Sunday worship, all are welcome. Please contact [Delores S](#), [Donna B](#) or [Juanita N](#) for more information.

## **We celebrate and give thanks to God for the following good news report from Roy S:**

*"I have finally reached my goal of 1000 sleeping mats which were distributed first to African countries but since Covid, to the homeless in Kitchener, Stratford, Brantford & Cambridge. I started this venture after Christmas of 2013 when my oldest brother introduced this type of mission project to me. The early years I took used bags from wherever I could find them and made approximately 60-65 mats per year, which went with a mission group to Zambia, but with Covid putting a halt to travel to these countries I found an outlet by donating them to the homeless right on our doorstep, Kitchener & Cambridge." Thank you Roy for your faithful work of compassion for others.*

## **YOUTH NEWS:**

**Friday, March 22nd, 7-9 p.m.– Oh Canada Gym Night!** Come out for a gym night with a Canadian twist at Crosshill MC. Bring gym shoes, and a topping for Beaver Tails. Drinks will be provided.

**Saturday, April 6th, 3:30-6 p.m.– Bowling at New Hamburg Lanes.** Bring money for bowling and supper at Subway.

**Thursday, April 25th, 7-9 p.m.– Worship Night at Westheights Community Church.** We have been invited for a worship and games night. More details will follow.

## **BROADER AREA NEWS AND EVENT:**

**All are invited to hear the Gospel Echoes Living Hope Team** share God's love through music at Maple View Mennonite Church, 5074 Deborah Glaister Line, Wellesley on Sunday, March 24 at 7:30 pm.

Two members of *Wilmot Ecumenical Working Group on Indigenous/Settler Relationships* will be presenting on Thursday March 28, from 1:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. to the Active Living Centre at the Wilmot Recreation Complex at 1291 Nafziger Road, Baden. All those 55+ are invited. Registration is not required.

There are many available appointments at the **Canadian Blood Services Blood Donation Centre** located at 94 Bridgeport Road East, Waterloo (next to Sobey's at the Bridgeport Plaza) over the Easter long weekend. Our blood donation centre is OPEN: Friday, March 29, 8 am–1 pm; Saturday, March 30, 8 am–1 pm; Monday, April 1, 2–7 pm. Individuals can schedule an appointment by visiting: [blood.ca](http://blood.ca); Downloading: GiveBlood app; Calling: 1 888 236 6283

**You Are Invited! Come join Compass Refugee Centre** at 675 Queen St S Unit 230, Kitchener for a day of learning, community, and celebration. Our Open House will feature interactive exhibits, guest speakers, and opportunities to connect with refugees and advocates in our community.

Prepare to be enthralled by Rockway students in grades 9-12, as they take on the world of **Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson April 11-13**. With many supporting actors in the cast, these plays come to life, with British accents and all. Tickets are \$15 per person. For more information and to get your tickets, visit: [rockway.ca/sherlock](http://rockway.ca/sherlock). *Special matinee for seniors only on April 10, 1 pm.* Contact ([office@rockway.ca](mailto:office@rockway.ca)) or 519.743.5209) to reserve your seats.

Rockway teachers are passionate about creating engaging lessons, challenging their students to think critically and caring for their wellbeing. Join us on April 16 at 7 pm to **discover the Rockway Experience for your child**. Visit [rockway.ca](http://rockway.ca) to RSVP today!

**Spring Seniors Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp.** On Monday, April 29th join us for a day of fellowship, community and conversations. Dr. Martha Taylor will share with us in the morning and Jane Kuepfer will host a panel discussion in the afternoon as we intentionally explore end-of-life conversations. Brochures by mailboxes or register online at [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

**The March edition of On the Level is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service.** In our current issue: learn how MDS is assessing the damage following tornadoes in the Midwest, a Canadian volunteer shares his view of "blessed interruptions," and get a recap of the Annual Celebration plus check out opportunities for you to volunteer! **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/4ajsn3D>

## **MCEC IN PRAYER**

- Please pray for the MCEC community of congregations. This week we pray for **Goshen Mennonite Church** in Ottawa, ON. Pastor François Machichi provides pastoral care for this congregation. Please pray for them as they minister, predominantly in Swahili, and provide a safe and familiar place to newcomers in Canada.
- Pray for the family of Gary Harder, retired MCEC minister, who died earlier this week, Monday, March 18, 2024.

Gary served a lifelong calling to pastoral ministry, serving at Waters Mennonite Church in Lively, Ontario, First Mennonite Church in Edmonton and Toronto United Mennonite Church. He ministered in several interim pastorates at Mennonite Fellowship of Montreal, Hagerman Mennonite Church in Markham, and Wideman Mennonite Church also in Markham. He served the wider church by mentoring over 30 ministry interns, teaching church and ministry at Conrad Grebel University College, and serving on many boards and committees over the years. Friends and relatives are invited to a visitation at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church, 1310 King St. N, St. Jacobs, on Thursday, March 21 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and again on Friday, March 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Funeral Service will be held at the church on Saturday, March 23 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow in the church basement. [Read Gary's full obituary.](#)

- Pray for the INNOVATE team as INNOVATE ministry draws to a close. Pray for the many lives and congregations who have been a part of the ReLearning Community/INNOVATE missional discipleship initiative. May God be praised for the lives changed, congregations strengthened and neighbourhoods transformed.
- Continue to pray for Myanmar, Ukraine, Gaza and throughout a world that cries for peace. Pray for those who are displaced, those who search for family members, those who make decisions and those who attempt to provide aid. Lord, hear our prayers.

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate is accepting applications for the position of Vice-Principal. If you, or someone you know would be a good fit for our school, please view and share the full job posting at: [rockway.ca/employment](http://rockway.ca/employment)

## **OFFERING REPORT - March 17, 2024**

Total Offering (budget): \$3650.00

Regular Offering: \$2190.00

PAO Offering: \$1460.00

Above Budget Donations:

Compass Refugee Centre: \$874.00

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

