****

***A place to belong and grow in faith***

****

**March 12, 2023**

572 East & West Line

Box249

Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

905-468-3505

Email: [office@bethanymennonite.ca](mailto:office@bethanyennonite.ca)

Website: www.bethanymennonite.ca

59 March 12, 2023 10:00 Service No. 11

**Gathering**

Prelude

Welcome Herb Sawatzky

Call to Worship

Song – “Sweet hour of Prayer” #11

“As the Deer”

Confession & Assurance

Prayer

**Life Together**

Announcements

Ministry time

Pastoral Prayer

Song – “All Who Are Thirsty”

**Hearing the Word**

Scripture – John 4:5-42

Children’s Story

Message – **“Shaped through thirst”** Herb Sawatzky

**Responding**

Song – “Jesus, Rock of Ages” #515

Faith Story Paul Klassen

Song – “I Saw a Tree by the Riverside”

Offering & Prayer

**Going**

Song – “Fill my cup, Lord”

Blessing

Musicians – Shirley Dick & Friends

Scripture Reader – James Sawatzky

**Welcome here!**

We’re glad you came! Your being here is a sign of God’s love for the world and encourages other Christians. We hope our worship together helps you find

***A place to belong and grow in faith***.

**Praise and Concerns**

***Prayers:***

* Shirley Neufeld convalescing at home
* in St. Catharines General Hospital
* Ed Epp has come home
* Waldy Heyder, at Shaver Hospital
* Dora Fisch-Willms is at Niagara Falls Hospital
* Sheila Gayman - undergoing cancer treatment
* Our sister church in Pereira, Colombia

**Bethany Announcements**

**Spiritual Formation Opportunities Today:**

* 10:00 Worship Service
* 11:10 Sr Youth & Young Adults Sunday School – Youth room
* 11:10 Adult Sunday School in the Library

We are looking for **volunteers** to learn how to work the **sound board** as well as the **video**. There will be on the job training available. Please contact Matt King if you are willing to learn one or both of these jobs.

**Directory** – We’re nearing the printing stage. Please get your changes in as soon as possible.

**Local Food Bank Drive:** Area food banks inform us that donations are down 30% this year while need is up 20%! Your continued support for our food drive to local food banks is much appreciated. Please drop off your donations in the food bin at the front door. Foods and snacks for breakfasts and school lunches are especially appreciated.

It’s time for a **Pastoral/Congregational Review!** You will have received an email with the review attached or paper copies are available in the narthex. Please complete the form by TODAY and return them to the office or to Shirley Dick. E-copies can be mailed to shirleym.dick@icloud.com.

Music is an important aspect of the worship service and everyone has songs that are especially significant to them. For the service on Sunday, April 9th, the **Worship Team will highlight** these **special songs** from people in the congregation. We invite you to let us know one of your favorite pieces of music, along with a brief write-up as to why it is important to you. If possible, we would invite you to share that story with the congregation just prior to singing the song.

**Silver Foxes** Our next event is a tour of The Niagara Christian Gleaners Facility in Smithville on the morning of April 12, followed by lunch at Laki’s Family Restaurant. The lunch choices are: Lasagna or Chicken Marsala **(please state your choice when registering)**, Rolls, Garden Salad, Coffee or Tea, Baklava or Rice Pudding for dessert. The total cost for the bus, tour and lunch is only $55.00 per person to be paid by **Mar.** **29** to hold your seat.  After that, a waiting list will be made. Please register with Ted and Syl Wiens or Paul and Joanne Thiessen.

**Our Donations Touching Lives**

**You can make your offering to Bethany by:**

• **E-transfer** to office@bethanymennonite.ca

• **Mail** to church at Box 249, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

• **Drop in the mailbox**  beside the front door on Wednesdays or Thursdays 8:30-3:30 and let Marianne know.

• **Canada Helps** button on [www.bethanymennonite.ca](file:///I:\Bulletins\www.bethanymennonite.ca). CanadaHelps charges 3.75% of the donation, but you will be receipted for full amount.

***Prayers:***

***Mennonite Church Eastern Canada***

* Please pray for [**Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church**](http://wkumchurch.ca/). Ben Cassels provides pastoral leadership for this congregation. Pray for them as they continue to learn and live the way of Jesus.
* Pray for **Steve Brnjas** (MCEC Ordained minister) and his family as they grieve the loss of Steven's mother, Mary Brnjas, who died on Thursday, February 23. Prayers were offered on Saturday, March 4, 2023 followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. from St. Anthony Daniel R.C. Church, Kitchener, ON. [View Mary's obituary](https://erbgood.com/tribute/details/16457/Mary-Brnjas/obituary.html).
* Continue to pray for peace and wisdom in Ukraine, Russia and in places throughout our world where the people cry out for peace. Lord, hear our prayers.

***Mennonite Central Committee***

• We give praise for how the Restorative Justice program's focus on social inclusion is changing the lives of participants who are reintegrating into the community after time in prison.

**Mennonite Church Canada**

**Video now available! Church-to-Church Conversation:** Meserete Kristos Church and Mennonite Church Canada **-**A conversation between President Desalegn Abebe, Meserete Kristos Church and Doug Klassen, Executive Minister, Mennonite Church Canada. Listen in on this rich exchange between sister-congregations about social justice and evangelism, leadership training, culture of call and partnership.. Discover the history, strategy and challenges of MKC. [Download the video for this encouraging conversation](https://mcec.ca/article/22182-video-church-to-church-conversation-mkc-and-mc-canada).

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp** **Winter and Spring Retreats**  Come to Silver Lake in 2023 for some fun camp experiences!

* **Summer Camp Registration is now Open:**  Visit the SLMC website for more details about overnight camps, outtrips and day camps. Click here for[**Camp Info and Registration**](https://slmc.ca/summer-camp/)
* **Come enjoy a Silver Lake Online Campfire!** March 26 (outtrips), April 23 (overnight), May 28 (general) @ 7pm. A great chance to meet some staff and ask questions. Click here for [**campfire details and link**](https://slmc.ca/2023/02/07/silver-lake-campfire/)!

**Church-to-Church Conversation: Myanmar Ministry Partners & Mennonite Church Canada,** March 22, 2023, 10 a.m. EST.[Register for the Zoom link and join a conversation between Myanmar Ministry Partners and MC Canada](https://mcec.ca/event/22175-2023-03-22-church-to-church-conversation-myanmar-ministry-mc-canada): This will be an opportunity to hear updates from Myanmar on ministry collaboration and the current political climate. During a time of violence and unrest in Myanmar, two groups of Anabaptist Christians have asked for Mennonite Church Canada to support them in leadership development and peace theology training.

**MCEC Annual Church Gathering, April 28 & 29, 2023**, Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, Kitchener, ON. Transformed. Inspired. Called. Fanosie Legesse, MCEC Intercultural Mission Minister, will encourage and challenge us on Friday night at a Mass Intercultural Worship Service, followed by a Saturday filled with celebration, learning, much discussion and worship. All are welcome! How might we embrace and live as people who are transformed, inspired and called? What difference does that make in our lives? in our communities? When we worship and pray together, we become grounded in God's love and connected to the Spirit's movement. Come and gather as God's people across MCEC.

**MCC, MDS, MEDA**

**Türkiye and Syria Earthquake Response** MCC is accepting donations to support people affected by the Feb. 6 earthquake in Türkiye and Syria. You can share God’s love and compassion with our global neighbours by providing a gift online at [mcccanada.ca/earthquake](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail19.com/t/i-l-qhtkuz-tdhruyldjy-t/), by calling 888-622-6337 or by sending a cheque marked for “Syria and Türkiye earthquake” to 203-50 Kent Ave., Kitchener, ON, N2G 3R1.

**Looking for household donations!** Have you been meaning to clear out household items that you no longer use, but haven't gotten around to it yet? Well, now's the time to do it! Our MCC thirft shops are in need of household donations to keep supplies strong on the sales floor. Tim Albrecht – the General Manager of (what we used to call) the Christian Benefit Shop – especially welcomes kitchen supplies and home décor. Pack up some boxes and head over to your local thrift shop today!

**Stitching and Stories** Mar 18 and 25 10 am-12:30 pm, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener, N2G 3R1 Join our Indigenous Neighbours team for a time of storytelling and stitching as Niska artisan Lucie Iserhoff teaches us how to bead a simple pin. A kit will be mailed to you with sewing materials. Register by March 6th, 2023 at 12pm to ensure the arrival of your sewing kit before the event begins. All proceeds from this event will go toward supporting the Niska program and future workshops. To learn more and to register, go to mcco.ca/events.

**Broader Community**

**Recharging Caregivers Group** – Thursdays beginning February 23 from 1:00-2:00 p.m.,Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Palliative Care is excited to offer this supportive program that aims to be a safe space for individuals who care for others. Free registration required.

Some seats are still left for July's **Russlaender 100: Memories of Migration Tour**. More information is available at the TourMagination website at: <https://tourmagination.com/tour/cross-canada-russlaender-centenary-tour/>.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

March 12-19 2023

Today 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:10 a.m. – Sunday School

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – Quilting

6:00 p.m. – Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. – JuBELLation

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:10 a.m. – Sunday School

*Speaking:* Herb Sawatzky

*Scripture:* 1 Samuel 16:1–13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41

*Theme:* Called to the light

**Worship services are recorded** live and kept on our youtube channel indefinitely. Recordings begin shortly before 10am and end after 11:04. Those who prefer not to appear in the recording are encouraged to sit near the back of the sanctuary in front of the cry room, and exit through the door on that side.