

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

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**September 17, 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 September 17, 2023 10:00 Service No. 38

**Gathering**  
      Prelude  
      Welcome & Call to Worship Herb Sawatzky

      Songs Shaw Gospel Singers

      Prayer

**Life Together**  
      Announcements  
      Ministry time  
      Pastoral Prayer  
      Song

**Hearing the Word**  
      Scripture – Mark 5:25-34

Children’s Story Video   
      Message – **Jesus the healer** Herb Sawatzky

**Responding**  
      Song

      Offering & Prayer

**Going**  
      Song

      Blessing

Scripture Reader – Helmut Weier

Music Ministry – Shaw Gospel Singers

*A warm welcome to the Shaw Gospel Singers who are leading us in worship this morning!*

**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:***

* Dawson King receiving treatment for a blood clot in his leg
* Kim Salierno daughter to Ted & Syl, receiving treatment for breast cancer
* Sheila Gayman - undergoing cancer treatment
* Our sister church in Pereira, Colombia

**Bethany Announcements**

**Spiritual Formation Opportunities Today:**

* 10:00 Worship Service
* 11:10 No Sunday School today

**Coffee Time** is back, but we need volunteers to help make the coffee. Please sign up on the sheet in the kitchen.

**Soup Lunch** - Come enjoy a “soup group lunch” experience at Bethany TODAY. All are welcome! Registration forms to sign up for new Soup Groups will be available at the lunch.

**Office Hours:** Herb will be out of the office from Thursday till Sunday. Please contact the Pastoral Care Team with any concerns.

**World Communion Sunday -** on Sunday, October 1st we will be celebrating communion with Niagara United Mennonite Church at 7 pm.

**Quilting** or more accurately tying of our comforters is starting again on Tuesday, October 3rd at 9 a.m. till 12 noon. Come and go as your time allows. Everyone is welcome and no experience required. Any questions, please contact Sue Weier.

**Neurographic Art** – Thursday, Sep 28th from 6-8 PM at Bethany. Neurographic Art is a therapeutic form of art that creates a mindful, meditative, yet aware state through the creation of new neural connections. The idea is to focus on an issue or question while working

on an artwork to help direct your neurons to enhance your ability to problem solve and make decisions. Presented by Niagara North Family Health Team. Call 289-272-0180 to register.

**Empowering Parents in the Digital Age** - an evening with Paul Davis. The internet is an incredible tool, but it is also a dangerous place for kids. At this seminar Paul Davis will give parents, grandparents, and guardians some of the tools we need to navigate the challenges of parenting in the digital age. Join us November 4th at 6:30 pm at Bethany Mennonite Church.

**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.

**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 **Breslau Mennonite Church**. Eleanor Epp-Stobbe provides pastoral leadership for the congregation. Amanda Snyder is children, youth and young adult coordinator for this congregation. Pray for them as they strive to be a welcoming community of faith and worship.
* Please pray for MCEC as we seek someone to fill the key leadership position of **Operations and Finance Director**. Pray for those who view and apply to the opportunity, those involved in the interview process and for the individual who will accept the call to this position. We ask for God’s wisdom and leading.
* Pray for **Anita Schroeder Kipfer**, pastor at Floradale Mennonite Church, and her family as they grieve the death of Anita's father, Hardy Schroeder, who died on Sunday, September 3, 2023. Please keep Anita, her mother Elfrieda, and her sisters Christine and Heidi, as well as their families, in your prayers.
* **Installations: Ben Cassels** was installed to serve as Witness and Resourcing Pastor at **Steinmann Mennonite Church** on September 10. **Tim Amor** will be installed to serve as pastor at **St. Catharines United Mennonite Church** and **Darrell Winger** will be installed to serve as pastor at **Grace Mennonite Church,** both on September 17. Pray for Ben, Tim, Darrell and their congregations as they begin their ministry together.
* Pray with **PeaceBuilders Community (PBCI)** as they work toward a sustainable transition of leadership in peace and justice work in Mindanao and other parts of the **Philippines**. Pray for Witness workers **Lakan and Lakambini (Dann and Joji Pantoja)** as they work with the group to discern future involvement in social enterprise and peace and reconciliation training.
* Hold in prayer the organizers and planners of the '**We are All Treaty People**' event being held Sept. 17th in Winnipeg.
* Call to prayer from the **faith communities who gathered at Camp Morgan**, at the entrance to the Brady Road Landfill outside of Winnipeg, MB! Praying for a broad acknowledgement that Indigenous women and girls continue to be violated in society and that God is weeping with those who suffer. May there be an outpouring of justice born from the realization that our communities have a role to play in coming alongside human suffering and extending healing and hope through presence, encouragement and advocacy.

***Mennonite Central Committee***

* Pray for all levels of government to collaboratively work together on funding for community programs like Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) that support individuals returning from prison.
* We give praise for eight sponsoring groups who have welcomed 27 newcomers over the last three months. May these newcomers experience love, peace and belonging in their new community of settlement.
* Please pray for refugess waiting for the Canadian resettlement process to unfold,who fear deportation in their countries of asylum and for those dealing with diplomatic and political bureaucracies related to exit permits.
* Pray for the millions around the world affected by political unrest and humanitarian crises in their home countries.

We are thankful that, when leaving prison, our restorative justice participants have been able to find housing, employment and connections in the community to feel they belong.

**Mennonite Church**

Laurie Warkentin will lead a workshop called ***Doing Good…Better*** on Tuesday, September 26th from 7-9 pm at the First Mennonite Church in Vineland. “The goal of this workshop is to grow our curiosity about our sometimes invisible assumptions so that we can build mutuality across differences, to be able to work together in ways that build peace and justice for all.” The link for more information and to register: <https://mcc.org/events/doing-good-better>

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp**

Registration now open for a wide variety of fun retreats coming up this fall. Click here for more info about the retreats below… slmc.ca/retreats

**Help Build a Future of Peace in Mindanao - the Future of Ministry in Philippines.**October 17, 2023, 2 - 4:30 p.m., MCEC 50 Kent Ave., Kitchener**.**Join MCEC, Joji Pantoja (MC Canada Witness Worker), Ka Boyet Ongkiko and Tala Bautista from the Philippines on their information and fundraising tour in Ontario. Dann and Joji Pantoja have served the socially and economically vulnerable people in the conflicted Mindanao region of the Philippines. Discover and be a part of the exciting final stages of a transition plan from MC Canada Witness to Tala and Boyet's capable leadership as the younger, Indigenous generation. The Malipayon Peace Hub will provide a sustainable pathway for PBCI and CFP to serve their communities into the future. Light refreshments will be served. [More information at mcec.ca.](https://mcec.ca/event/22805-2023-10-17-help-build-a-future-of-peace-in-mindanao)

**MCEC Financial Update Zoom Call**. November 8, 2023, 7 p.m., online. Save the Date. Hear the MCEC financial story at this time of the fiscal year. More information will follow. This event is open to pastors, treasurers, councils and all other interested persons.

**MCC, MDS, MEDA**

**Offices and Thrift Shops closed on Monday, Sept. 25 -** All MCC Ontario office and thrift shops will be closed on Monday, Sept. 25 to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Learning resources are available on our website.

**MCC Ontario Annual General Online Meeting -** September 25, 2023 from 7:00-8:30 pm. We deeply appreciate your support, and how you are impacting so many lives in Ontario and around the world. Join us on September 25 for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) as we share MCC Ontario's financial outcomes and a snapshot of our strategic plan progress. Official Congregational Representatives and Delegates who register as such are entitled to vote. Visit mcco.ca/AGM for details.

**MEDA’s Convention Grant & Volunteer Opportunity** is here! Join entrepreneurs and business professionals across North America in vibrant Toronto from November 2-5 for MEDA's 70th-anniversary celebration. Apply today and you could be one of three lucky Convention Volunteer applicants with exclusive, behind the scenes access to this year's event!

* You'll gain valuable volunteer experience for your CV,
* Make new connections and expand your business network,
* Immerse yourself in MEDA's impactful work,
* And be an integral part of this year's milestone event!

[**Apply now**](https://www.meda.org/opportunities/meda-convention-volunteer-associate/). The deadline for volunteer applications is **October 4th, 2023**, with selections announced on October 5th, 2023. *Lodging, registration, and travel expenses will be covered for selected volunteers.*

**Broader Church & Community**

**Wells of Hope** presents “Passion Food & Wine Tasting” Fundraiser for Guatemala at Chateau des Charmes on Friday, September 22 from 6:30-10:00 pm. Enjoy good food, wine, beer, music, dancing silent auction and prizes for $100 per person. Purchase tickets at www.niagarapassion.com.

**Xplore** – Xplore offers life-long learning courses that investigate dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it—all without assignments or exams! Join one or more of our offered courses (online). For more information and to register visit cmu.ca/xplore.

**The Abner Martin Music Scholarship** ($4,000 value last year) is awarded annually by Menno Singers to a student who: 1) will be enrolled in a full-time music in 2023-2024; 2) is affiliated with an MCEC congregation; and 3) has demonstrated involvement in musical activities in church and community. Applications must be received by September 22, 2023. For more information and/or an application form contact Lewis Brubacher, lbrubacher@sympatico.ca, or call him at 519-884-3072.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

September 17-24, 2023

Today 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

12:00 p.m. – Soup Lunch

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:10 a.m. – Sunday School

*Speaking:* Craig Frere

*Scripture:* John 16:16-33

*Theme:* God's Got This

**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.