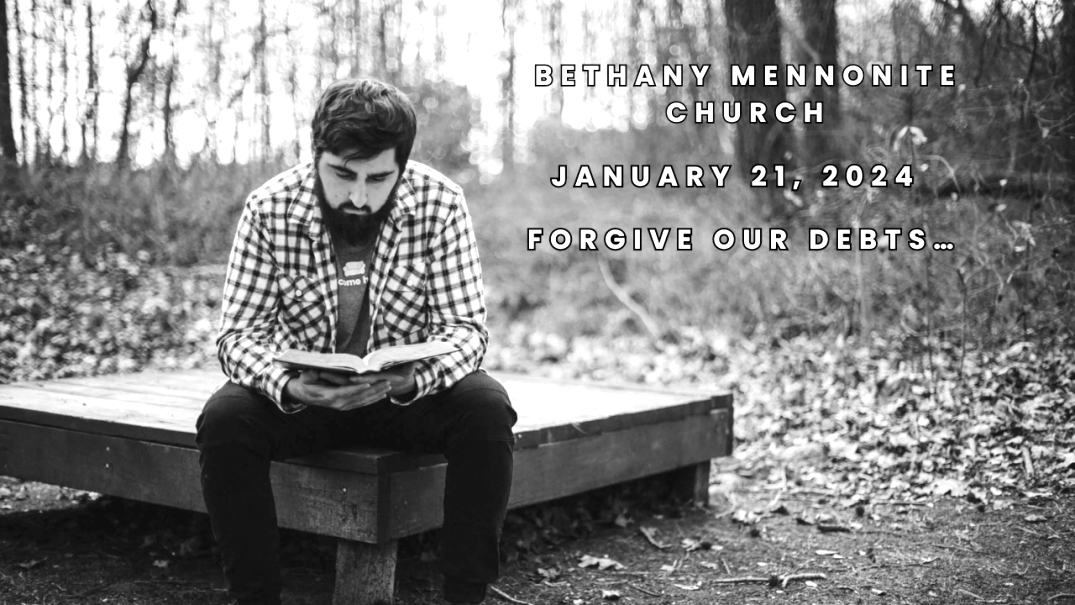


***A place to belong and grow in faith***

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**January 21, 2024**

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 January 21, 2024 10:00 Service No. 3

**Gathering**

Prelude

Welcome Herb Sawatzky

Call to Worship

Songs – “

“

Prayer

**Life Together**

Announcements

Ministry time

Pastoral Prayer

Song – “

Faith Story Ken Janzen

**Hearing the Word**

Scripture – Matthew 6:7-15

Children’s Video

Message – **Forgive us our debts…** Herb Sawatzky

**Responding**

Song – “

Offering Prayer

**Going**

Song – “

Benediction

Musicians – Gayle Neufeld & Friends

**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:***

* Josh Legere (Holly’s husband) surgery scheduled for Jan 16
* Dora Fisch-Willms at Garden City Manor
* Gayle King is dealing with some health concerns
* Kim Salierno daughter to Ted & Syl, as she recovers from surgery
* Our sister church in Pereira, Colombia

**Bethany Announcements**

**Spiritual Formation Opportunities Today:**

* 10:00 Worship Service
* 11:10 Adult Sunday School in library

**Annual Report Books** are available in the narthex after the service.

**Prayer Breakfast** - Our Prayer Breakfast is planned for Thursday, January 25th at 7am at Bethany. Invite friends and neighbours.

Our **AGM** for Bethany Mennonite Church will be held this Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. This is an important meeting where a quorum is required to approve the budget for the year, and the leadership positions for the Church Board. If you are unable to attend in person, and would like to assign a proxy, proxy forms can be picked up in the narthex this morning or during the week. Coffee will be available, and there will be some snacks and time for informal fellowship after the meeting.

**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.

Please see the bulletin board for a **Pereira Church** update.

**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 **Elmira Mennonite Church**. Charleen Jongejan Harder provides pastoral leadership for the congregation in Drummondville, QC. Pray for this congregation as they celebrate 100 years of God's faithfulness.
* Pray for **MCEC junior youth and their sponsors** as they gather this weekend at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate for the **MCEC/Rockway junior youth event Lean on Me**! Youth will talk about how to lean on God and lean on each other as they walk through life together
* Praise God for the opening of a **Bible school in Roi Et, Thailand**. Pray for the pastors and teachers who are teaching courses as well as developing and refining curriculum to meet the needs of lay leaders and pastors in the more than one hundred Friends of Grace congregations and house churches. Pray for **Tom and Christine Poovong**, MC Canada Witness workers as they minister in Thailand.
* January 21, 2024, is the 499th anniversary of Anabaptism. **Praise God for the rich diversity of our worldwide family of faith**.  Join congregations around the world with prayers and celebrate **Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday.**
* Continue to hold our world in prayer as war and rumours of war resound. Pray for those who experience grief and pain; live in fear and danger because of armed conflict and call out to God from such harsh realities. Pray for Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, Myanmar and more. Lord, hear our prayers.

***Mennonite Central Committee***

• Please pray for MCC Serving and Learning Together program participants who will be spending their Christmas far away from their families, including Adrian Berrio Klassen from Ontario.

**Mennonite Church**

Anyone wishing to see the **United Mennonite Home Newsletter,** please contact the office.

**Virtual Book Launch at CommonWord Unburdened: A Lenten Journey toward Forgiveness** Join us on Zoom for a conversation on February 1 with author Carol Penneras she prepares us for Lent and a journey of forgiveness and healing. [Register for the Zoom link](https://mcec.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=148d8aa0248ccb8acc31f00a2&id=c3e6addccd&e=4ba977e13a)

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp Winter and Spring Retreats:** Come to Silver Lake in 2024 for fun camp experiences! Coming up soon are… Women’s Retreat (Feb 2-4), Valentine’s Day Getaway (Feb 9-11), Winter Camp for Grown-Ups (Mar 1-3). Go to [**slmc.ca/retreats**](https://slmc.ca/retreats/retreats/) for more info.

**SLMC Summer Camp:** Registration for overnight camp and day camp opens February 1 at 7am. Visit [**slmc.ca/summer-camp**](https://slmc.ca/summer-camp) for more details. Outtrip registration is already open – sign up before Feb 1 to get $100 off.

**MCC, MDS, MEDA**

**On the level**, and MDS newsletter is now available from the office.

**Lunch and Listen with Sara Wyngaarden** *Tuesday, January 23, 12 - 1 pm, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener or online.* Join us online or in-person at the MCC office in Kitchener as we hear from Sara Wyngaarden, Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator in Guatemala. Go to [mcc.org/events](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail19.com/t/i-l-aiditid-tuauigtk-d/) for more information.

**Becoming Good Relatives Retreat** - *January 26/27, Jericho House, 10845 Rathfon Rd, Port Colborne.* In this one-and-a-half-day retreat, author and speaker Patty Krawec will use Anishinaabe teachings to help participants reflect on their social and individual histories in order to improve their capacity to have difficult conversations with others about Canadian history and current impacts on Indigenous people. To learn more and to register, go to [mcc.org/events](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail19.com/t/i-l-atkjdlk-tuauiwih-o/).

**Great Winter Warm-up** *January 27, 2024 9 am – 4 pm, New Hamburg Material Resources Centre, 65 Heritage Dr, New Hamburg*  
This winter, compassionate people like you are giving the gift of warm comforters to those in need around the world. Each comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible reminder to people in vulnerable situations that their needs are not forgotten. Help us meet our goal to collect 7,000 comforters by holding or attending comforter-knotting blitzes during January and February. On January 27, you’re invited to participate in a comforter-knotting blitz. Knotters of all skills are welcome and snacks and drinks will be provided. Learn more at [mcc.org/events](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail19.com/t/i-l-aiditid-tuauigtk-t/).

**New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Feature Quilt Reveal**  
*January 29, 2024 at 9:30 AM, MCC, 50 Kent Ave., Kitchener*  
Each year, a talented individual or team creates the feature quilt for the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale. Feature quilts have depicted historical churches, the play of colour and light across fabric, a journey through Africa, among other innovative designs. On January 29, the curtain will be removed and the 2024 feature quilt will be revealed. Join us in the lower atrium at 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener or on social media.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

January 21-28, 2024

Today 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:10 a.m. – Adult Sunday School

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – Quilting

6:00 p.m. – Handbell choir

7:30 p.m. – JuBELLation

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – **Annual General Meeting**

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:10 a.m. – Adult Sunday School

*Speaking:* Herb Sawatzky

*Scripture:* Matthew 6:13

*Theme:* Lead us not into temptation…

**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.