

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

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**April 7, 2024**

572 East & West Line

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Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

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Email: office@bethanymennonite.ca

Website: www.bethanymennonite.ca

 59 April 7, 2024 10:00 Service No. 14

**Gathering**

 Prelude

 Welcome Herb Sawatzky

 Call to Worship

 Songs – “Come, Christians Join to Sing”

 “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

**Life Together**

 Announcements

 Ministry time

 Pastoral Prayer

 Song – “Listen, God is Calling”

**Hearing the Word**

Scripture – Matthew 28:16-20 Denise Horne

 Children’s Video

 Message – **Start with a relationship** John Tiessen

**Responding**

 Song – “Christ be All Around Me”

 Offering Prayer

**Going**

 Song – “God Loves All His Many People”

 Benediction

Musicians – Kenton & Sheryl Janzen & 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:***

* Steve Goertz recovering from hip surgery
* Dora Fisch-Willms at St. Catharines Hospital
* Our sister church in Pereira, Colombia

We praise & thank God for the safe arrival of **Naya Redekop** **MacLachlan** born March 26th. A beautiful daughter to Melissa & Andrew. Proud Grandparents are Gerry & Marilyn and Rob & Cathy.

**Bethany Announcements**

**Spiritual Formation Opportunities Today:**

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

**Sheryl Janzen** will be in the **office** this week on Tuesday 8:30-3:30 and Friday 8:30-2:30 while Marianne is away.

Please find a copy of the **2024 Directory** in your mailbox.

**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%3A%5CBulletins%5Cwww.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 **Grace New Life Mennonite Church**in Hamilton, ON. Sririsack Saythavy provides pastoral care for this congregation. Please pray for this Laotian congregation as they minister in their Hamilton neighbourhood.
* KyongJung Kim will be Ordained at Preston Mennonite Church on April 7, 2024. Pray for KyongJung and the congregations (Preston and Wanner) as they celebrate his calling to ministerial leadership. To share your words of encouragement and support with KyongJung, you can reach him at kyongjung.pwchurches@gmail.com.
* Pray for **Mennonite Church Canada Witness worker, Tom Poovong**, together with Thai colleagues, **Pastor Khamphan and Pastor Thipphawan** as they travel in Canada during the month of April. They will be in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.  Pray for the relationships being built and connections made in this travel.  During their time in Ontario (April 4-9) Norm Dyck and Yoel Masyawong from the MCEC team who will be hosting them as they meet with congregations, Conrad Grebel and the Lao Mennonite Fellowship of Canada.
* **Continue to pray for Myanmar**, **Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine 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.

***Mennonite Central Committee***

• Praise God that MCC has delivered a critical truckload of emergency food for besieged families in Gaza. As part of a convoy of other trucks transporting humanitarian relief via Jordan, the vehicle sat for more than a week waiting to cross the border but finally made its way through the Kerem Abu Salem crossing into Gaza on March 19.

• Pray for peace in Haiti and for political and social stability that people can go about their normal lives. Pray also for MCC staff and its 11 partners in the country that they would have wisdom and resilience in the course of ongoing stress and trauma.

**Mennonite Church**

**MCEC Financial Zoom Call, April 17, 2024, 7-8 p.m. online.**The internal financial statements will be presented in advance of the Annual Church Gathering. This conversation provides an early opportunity for conversation and to ask questions. Register through your Annual Church Gathering registration or at [mcec.ca](https://mcec.ca/event/23092-2024-04-17-mcec-financial-zoom-call).

**Consider the Birds: Point Pelee Pre- MCEC Annual Church Gathering Contemplative Nature Walk,** Friday, April 26, 2024, 12:30-3:30 p.m., Point Pelee National Park **-**Join MCEC Eco-Minister Wendy Janzen for an afternoon excursion to Point Pelee National Park. [More information at mcec.ca](https://mcec.ca/article/23348-consider-the-birds-point-pelee-pre-acg-contemplative-nature-walk).

**Annual Church Gathering, April 26 & 27, 2024, 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 you 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 new congregations and more! [Registration is open in both English and French.](https://mcec.ca/annualchurchgathering)

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp**

**Remembering Henry Pauls** – A CILT Cabin Dedication Service will be held on April 28 at 10am at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp to honour Henry Pauls’ legacy with the camp.

**SLMC Summer Camp** – Registration is open! Visit [slmc.ca/summer-camp](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHome%5CDocuments%5CBulletins%5Cslmc.ca%5Csummer-camp) to view all programs available at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp this summer.

**Spring Work Weekend –** Enjoy a family-friendly, free weekend at Silver Lake to help open the camp for the summer. All meals provided. April 26-28. Register at [slmc.ca/retreats](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHome%5CDocuments%5CBulletins%5Cslmc.ca%5Cretreats).

**MCC, MDS**

**Doing Good...Better** April 11, 18 & 25, 1:30-3:00 pm, online
As Jesus followers, we want to do good and make a difference, especially as it relates to working towards Truth & Reconciliation with Indigenous people. The goal of this 4-week series is to grow curiosity and awareness about how we are approaching truth & reconciliation efforts so that we can all do good…better and be walking a path towards accompanying Indigenous people in Truth & Reconciliation. To learn more and to register, go to [newleafnetwork.ca/events/doinggoodbetter](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail20.com/t/i-l-akyhhuk-ilihujttlj-h/).

**Learning Tour: Travelling Together Through Truth** October 21-25, Timmins, ON - Get ready to be inspired and learn as we embark on an exciting journey of connecting and engaging with First Nations communities, organizations and partners of MCC Ontario's Indigenous Neighbours program in Timmins. To learn more, contact Cam McEachern at 705-264-2494, ext. 220 or by email at cammceachern@mcco.ca.

**Broader Church & Community**

**Seasons Chorale** will be performing “The Conquest of the Cross” today @ 6:00 pm at Glenridge Bible Church on Scott Street, St. Catharines and on Friday, April 12 at 2:00 pm at Harbour Fellowship Church at 51 South Service Road, St. Catharines.

A Memorial Service for **Mary Thiessen** will be held at Cornerstone Community Church, 434 Hunter Rd, Niagara on the Lake, on Saturday, April 13th at 11:00am, with a luncheon to immediately follow. The family invites all who wish to attend, to join them in remembering her.

**German Service on a Sunday Afternoon** – To honour our local historic Mennonite history, mark your calendars for a German Service on Sunday April 21 @ 2:30pm at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church (335 Linwell Road, St. Catharines). After the service of singing, sharing, and engaging with each other in the German heart language, we will gather for light refreshments in the gym. Alle Willkommen!! All Welcome!! Elevator to sanctuary/gym available; please enter through front entrance.

**Wells of Hope** – Save the dates! Saturday, July 13th the 17th Annual Golf Tournament will take place at Riverview GC. Friday, September 13th they will host their 20th Anniversary Gala at Queen’s Landing. Stay tuned for updates.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

April 7-14, 2024

Today 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

 11:10 a.m. – Adult Sunday School

Tuesday 6:00 p.m. – Handbell choir

 7:30 p.m. – JuBELLation

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

 11:10 a.m. – Adult Sunday School

*Speaker:* Herb Sawatzky

*Scripture:* Colossians 1:1-14

*Theme:* What’s it all about?

**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.