

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

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**April 14, 2024**

572 East & West Line

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

Website: www.bethanymennonite.ca

59 April 14, 2024 10:00 Service No. 15

**Gathering**

Prelude

Welcome Herb Sawatzky

Call to Worship

Songs – Oh, When the Saints

Thank You Lord

He Looked Beyond

**Life Together**

Announcements

Ministry time

Pastoral Prayer

Song – Somebody Bigger than You and I

This Little Light of Mine

**Hearing the Word**

Scripture – Colossians 1:1-14 Katie Reimer

Children’s Video

Message – **What’s it all about?**

**Responding**

Song – My Tribute

Offering Prayer

**Going**

Song – I Believe

Benediction

Musician – Jeremiah Sparks

**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:***

* Dora Fisch-Willms at St. Catharines Hospital
* Our sister church in Pereira, Colombia

**Bethany Announcements**

**Spiritual Formation Opportunities Today:**

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

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

**Earth Day** is on Monday, April 22. We encourage the congregation to wear green for the time of worship on April 21.

**Solar Eclipse Glasses Collection - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle –**Bring your solar eclipse glasses to Bethany where they are being collected and sent with Don Neufeld to the MCEC Annual Church Gathering in Leamington, ON at the end of April. They will be distributed to school children in developing countries in preparation for upcoming eclipses.

**Silver Foxes – Save the Date**: Wednesday, May 15. More information will follow.

**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.

**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 the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for **Hagerman Mennonite Church** in Markham, ON. Roberson Mbayamvula provides pastoral care for this congregation. Please pray for this congregation as they minister in their Markham, ON neighbourhood.
* **Kara Carter** will be installed at **Elmira Mennonite Church** on April 14, 2024 as Liminal Transformational Pastor. Pray for Kara and the congregation as they begin their ministry together. To share your words of encouragement and support with Kara, you can reach her at kara@elmiramennonite.ca.
* Pray for the **MCEC Financial Zoom Call** taking place on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Pray for those preparing and for those who will be participating. Pray for God's clarity, wisdom and inspiration.
* **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**

From the Canadian Mennonite: **Violence has devastated Meserete Kristos Church (MKC), the Mennonite body in Ethiopia.** As of February 12, armed groups had burned 49 MKC churches to the ground, looted and damaged another 81 churches, and killed 1,231 MKC members, including 31 church leaders.  MKC president Desalegn Abebe wrote: “We taught our church members the theology of non-violence and they have been living with all people peacefully for years. Some of the victims’ families stated that the losses they experienced were something they could not explain. On behalf of the MKC, I kindly request your solidarity with us during this trial time.”MC Canada has launched an urgent relief appeal in support of MKC. To contribute, visit [mennonitechurch.ca/international-witness/MKC-relief](http://mennonitechurch.ca/international-witness/MKC-relief) or call 866-888-6785.

**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).

**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:\Users\Home\Documents\Bulletins\slmc.ca\summer-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:\Users\Home\Documents\Bulletins\slmc.ca\retreats).

**MCC, MDS**

**The New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Promo Dinner** will take place on Monday, April 29th at 6:00 PM at Calvary United Church, 48 Hawkesville Road, St. Jacobs. Throughout the evening, you'll be treated to the sweet sounds of Surrendered - a talented group of individuals who sing acapella for the Lord. Plus, you'll have the chance to hear firsthand updates on MCC's impactful work in Ethiopia. Tickets for this evening are just $25 per person, and children aged 10 and under can attend for free. Simply reach out to Justin at 519-745-8458 ext. 262, or skip the payment line at the dinner and buy your tickets online [New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Fundraising Dinner (regfox.com)](https://omrs.regfox.com/new-hamburg-mennonite-relief-sale-fundraising-dinner)

**Join us at the 58th New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale** *May 24 & 25, New Hamburg Fairgrounds* Get ready for a weekend of excitement at the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale! Join us for a fantastic time filled with fun, food, and the chance to reconnect with old friends while making new ones. Mark your calendars for Friday evening and Saturday as we kick off the festivities! Don't let this chance slip by to immerse yourself in community spirit and lend your support to MCC. Visit [nhmrs.com](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail20.com/t/i-l-akdtijl-irllthtldd-j/) for all the details. See you there!

**Run for Relief** *Saturday, May 25 at 8 am, New Hamburg Fairgrounds*  
Lace up your shoes and get ready to Run for Relief! Before you join the lines for spring rolls and doughnuts at the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale, get an early morning 2 km or 5 km fun run in at the Run for Relief. Not a runner? Walkers are also welcome! All participants are invited to gather at the New Hamburg Fairgrounds at 8:00 am. For more info, go to [nhmrs.com/run-for-relief](https://mennonitecentralcommittee.cmail20.com/t/i-l-akdtijl-irllthtldd-i/).

**Broader Church & Community**

**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.

To Men of all ages: On Saturday May 4th Niagara United Mennonite Church is hosting a **Man-Up Niagara** event at 7pm. This is a free Non-Denominational Service, and all men are welcome. See [manupniagara.com](http://manupniagara.com/).

**Let’s Get Dirty: The Lowdown on Earth’s Fabric** in your own Yard – a Face2Face panel discussion on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00 PM at CMU and via livestream. Hear from scientists, researchers, and farmers about the untapped potential that’s in your very own yard. Visit cmu.ca/face2face.

A Letter from our Sister Church in Columbia

Blessings to you and the church,  
When reading your message I couldn't help but cry with joy at this news, which is a clear answer from God to our prayer. Thank you, infinite thanks, with this gift we will be able to finish our work, glory to God!!  
  
I am very happy, and the church will celebrate this great blessing with gratitude and joy.  
  
Please communicate to the church our deep gratitude and special blessing for this generous gesture to us, our hearts overflow with joy.  
  
I want to ask you if at some point you have a way to give us a photograph of the brothers of the church; We would like to have it in a very special place that we want to have in the church where everyone who has supported us in this project will be there and obviously our sister church occupies a very special place.  
  
God bless you and multiply you abundantly, fill you with grace and surround you with peace and love.

A big warm hug!  
In love  
Adriana L

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

April 14-21, 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 1:15-23

*Theme:* It’s all about Jesus

**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.