

**WILMOT MENNONITE CHURCH**

2995 Bleams Rd.

New Hamburg, Ontario N3A 3J3

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519-634-5030

**February 15, 2026**

**The Man Born Blind: “I am the Light of the World”**

Prelude Susan Cressman

Welcome Wolfgang Dreschke

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?  
**God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble,  
and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

Day after day, we seek God’s face and the assurance of  
God’s holy love:  
**O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us!  
Be our guide and our light instead!**

One thing we ask of God:  
**That we may live in God’s dwelling place all the days of  
our life,  
and never cease to behold the beauty of God’s home.**

Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving,  
for God is among and within us!  
**Thanks be to God!**

Gracious Light-Bearer,  
Into the shadows of our isolation  
you speak words of life and community.  
Challenger of our lives,  
you call us from places we call home  
to lead us more deeply into the world you love.  
With your gentle, healing touch  
you redeem the broken places of our lives  
and you heal the wounded places of the earth.  
Inspire our worship here this day,  
so that we may receive liberation in your word,  
and be filled to overflowing  
to share your reconciling love throughout the earth.  
We pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Song O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing VT 764

Psalm 27:1-14

Song See Whose Glory Fills the Sky VT 274

Prayer of Confession  
**Holy Jesus,  
We confess that we fail to question our own  
sightlessness.  
Being so sure that we “see,”  
we miss the truths you would teach us.  
With the poultice of your love, cure this blindness.  
Open our eyes to our own misunderstandings,  
our own failures and our own faults.  
Make our “shadow side” known to us  
and help us to diminish it with the light of your grace.  
For it is only when we see ourselves clearly  
that we can worship you truly.**

Scripture John 9:1-41 Bible Story by Saddleback Kids

Song The Lord Is My Light VT 437

Sermon Susan Allison-Jones

Song of Response Open My Eyes VT 738

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Song Amazing Grace! VT 163

Sending

Postlude

~ The Call to Worship and Opening Prayer was written by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley, and posted on the United Church of Christ's *Worship Ways* website

~ The Confession was taken from *Sharing the Light: Service Prayers and Holy Communion* written by The Rev. Marilyn Kennedy Levine.

## Lent - Dwelling in Dissonance

Lent 1 Feb 22 Rising of Lazarus:

Love and Grief; Glory and Belief

John 11:1-44 (Psalm 104:27-30) Susan Allison Jones

Lent 2 Mar 1 Jesus Washes Feet: Obvious and Hidden

John 13:1-17 (Psalm 51:7-12) Susan Allison Jones

Lent 3 Mar 8 Peter's Denial: Standing Up and Standing Back

John 18:12-27 (Psalm 17:1-7) Jim Loepp Thiessen

Lent 4 Mar 15 Jesus Condemned: Complicity and Innocence

John 19:1-16a (Psalm 146) Susan Allison Jones

## Upcoming Events

Feb 15 Congregational Meeting after worship

Feb 17 Shrove Tuesday Supper 5 pm

Feb 22 Dwelling in Dissonance Conversation after Worship

Feb 26 Bible Study at Hillcrest MC at 7 pm

**Lenten Lunches** The churches of the Wilmot Ecumenical Ministerial invite you to join in weekly gatherings at noon for a light meal and a short devotional/time of corporate worship. 12 noon. Cost of lunch by donation.

February 25 – Trinity Lutheran Church

23 Church St., New Hamburg

March 4 – Shantz Mennonite Church

2473 Erbs Road, Baden

March 11 --Zion United Church

215 Peel St., New Hamburg

March 18 – New Hamburg Christian Centre

177 Jacob St., New Hamburg

March 25 – Steinmann Mennonite Church

1316 Snyder's Road W. Baden

## Birthdays

Florence Roes February 20

Stan Gallian February 22

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for the **MCEC community of congregations**. This week we pray for **Chin Christian Church** in Kitchener, and for Jehu Lian and Joseph Raltong, who provide pastoral leadership to this community. Many in this congregation have family and friends in Myanmar who are suffering amid ongoing violence and instability. On February 10, a Myanmar military bomber struck a village in Chin State. In the aftermath of the attack, the entire population fled into the surrounding forests for safety. Lord, hear our prayer.

Pray for Jean Schwartzentruber as she adjusts to living in an Assisted Care Home in Collingwood. Also remember her daughter Brenda and her family as they support Jean.

## Congregational Notes

Thank you for our 90th birthday celebration. Catherine Rudy

There will be a short congregational meeting following worship today.

Jean Schwartzentruber's new address is:

Chartwell Georgian Traditions Retirement Residence  
Memory Care  
57 Trott Blvd. Collingwood, ON  
L9Y 043 705 444 6431

To phone Jean, call the number above and ask to be transferred to Memory Care. They will take a phone to her.

Plan to join other members for our annual pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board if you are planning to attend.

Join Susan after worship during Lent to discuss the week's Lenten theme. We will also use the Lenten material from the Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada.

The Gospel of John will be the focus of the Lenten journey this year with the 2026 Narrative Lectionary scripture readings. You are invited to participate in a Wilmot Ignited Bible Study, led by pastors Kathryn, Kevin, and Greg. This will be an in-depth study of John's gospel, starting Thurs, Feb 26 and running weekly for 5 sessions. We will meet at Hillcrest Mennonite Church from 7:00-8:30 pm.

A series of weekly contemplative prayers is on the table in the foyer. They are written by members of the Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada.

A schedule for the Lenten Lunches organized by the Ecumenical Ministerial is on the table in the foyer. The first one will be on Wed., Feb 25th.

## Less domination, more collaboration

Over his 40-year career in peacebuilding, MCC Ontario program team lead Rod Friesen has gathered a wealth of hard-earned wisdom. In a newly released episode of **Undercurrents**, the podcast of MCC Ontario, Rod reflects on three memorable stories that shaped his work and shares the practical lessons we can all apply in our own lives. Listen to 40 years of insight in just 25 minutes [here](#).

## Beyond The Congregation

Mennonite Church Canada released an initial \$5,000 in emergency support for victims of the recent bombing in the village of Tlangkhua, Myanmar. Mennonite Church Canada serves as a global companion to the Bible Missionary Church in Myanmar. Our partners there have shared an urgent need for financial assistance to cover medical costs and immediate needs. Your prayers and financial gifts will help those harmed in this attack receive the care and hope they desperately need. If you would like to help, **donate here**. (designate Myanmar in the note section of the form). You can read more in the Mennonite World Conference **news release**.

**Heritage Day Feb 21 10:00 am-2:00 pm**

**New Dundee Community Centre (1028 Queen Street)**

Wilmot Township's Heritage Day is a valuable opportunity to examine the peoples and histories that have shaped our communities. The Indigenous Relations Working Group of Wilmot seeks to promote understanding of the history of Indigenous communities in this area, and will be present at Heritage Day.

**MCEC Idea Exchange - Churches Caring for Creation, March 7, 2026, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., 800 King St. E., Kitchener, ON.** Join

A Rocha Ontario and MCEC for our morning event to explore how Christian communities can make creation care part of the way they serve God and neighbour. A morning of stories and insights from experienced panelists.

**Grandparent & Grandchild Day at Hidden Acres**

Are you a grandparent looking for ways to make meaningful memories with your grandkids Grades 1-6 during March Break? Grandparent & Grandchild Day is a great opportunity to spend time together playing, singing, creating, laughing, eating and worshipping together!

Join us March 16th, 2026 to experience majestic and exotic birds from around the world with *Wings Over The Rainforest*. Cost is \$30/person and includes lunch. For more information or to register go to [hiddenacres.ca/programs/grandparent-child-days](https://hiddenacres.ca/programs/grandparent-child-days)

**Seniors Retreat at Hidden Acres**

On Mon April 20, 2026 seniors (55+) are invited to spend the day at Hidden Acres. Our theme is *Consider the Birds: Practicing Hope In A Worrisome World*. Cost is \$55 and includes lunch. For more information or to register go to [hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat](https://hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat). If you need help registering please talk to Susan.

**Ministry Team Leaders** Ross Shantz (chair), Fern Good,  
Florence Scheerer

**Finance** - Lia and Michael Fewkes

**Worship** - Bonnie Lee Bowman

**Facilities** - John Good

**Pastor:** Susan Allison-Jones; [wilmotpastor@gmail.com](mailto:wilmotpastor@gmail.com)  
226-808-4353

**Office Hours:** Tuesday afternoon & Thursday morning  
To Book the Church call the Church Office @ 519-634-5030