

WILMOT MENNONITE CHURCH

2995 Bleams Rd.

New Hamburg, Ontario N3A 3J3

WilmotMennoniteChurch@gmail.com

www.wilmotmennonite.ca

519-634-5030

March 8, 2026

Peter's Denial: Standing Up and Standing Back

Prelude Sara Roth

We Gather

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer Susan Allison Jones

Confident, hesitant, maybe just tired.

We come to worship.

Wanting to follow but not always sure how.

Embarrassed by the ways we've fallen short.

We come anyway.

Seeking, hurting, longing, needing.

We come.

When hopes are high, and dreams are bright.

When hopes are dashed, and the world is not all right.

We come again. We keep coming.

Ready or not. Here we are.

Come, Jesus. Come and meet us.

Song Come, Christians, Join to Sing VT 28

Psalm 17:1-7

Song There's a Wideness in God's Mercy VT 156

Confessional poem

Jesus, following you doesn't always go
the way we expect.

We had such high hopes
for you and for ourselves . . .

We feel for Peter.

In that moment of fear
when everything is falling apart
we too may find

that we are not as brave as we wish;
that, in fact, we are not ready
to lay down our lives
for anyone.

But when we deny
you or run from the truth
or refuse our identity and potential,
you remain faithful.

When we turn away,
still you are steadfast.

We Hear God's Word

Scripture John 18:12-27
Scripture story by Christian.net (Video)

Song Seeking Warmth from Charcoal Blazing VT 344
sung by Niagara United Mennonite Church (video)

Sermon Jim Loepp Thiessen

We Respond

Song of Response
Here on Christ the Rock I Will Stand VT 159

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Song Just a Closer Walk with Thee

VT 743

Sending Blessing

As you go, may you listen for God
in the discordant melodies of your life,
in the fear, in the regret, in the questions.
May you give and receive grace.
May you go with Christ's peace surrounding you.

Postlude

Lent - Dwelling in Dissonance

Lent 4 Mar 15 Jesus and Pilate: Submission and Power

John 18:28-40 (Psalm 145:10-13) Susan Allison Jones

Lent 5 Mar 22 Jesus Condemned: Complicity and Innocence

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

Lent 6 Mar 29 Palm Sunday: The Crucified Messiah

John 12:12-17, John 19:16b-22 (Psalm 24) Glyn Jones

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.

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

Prayer Requests

Mennonite World Conference asks for our prayers for our members in Cuba. Cuba's humanitarian situation is worsening due to fuel shortages that started when the USA blocked oil supplies entering Cuba nearly a month ago. Continued shortages will harm healthcare, water services, and food distribution, deepening the humanitarian crisis and causing suffering especially for the most vulnerable. Pray that much needed supplies will reach the island nation quickly. Pray that amid the stress of shortages added to rebuilding after November's hurricane and more severe weather, people will take care of each other, sharing resources so that everyone has enough.

Please pray for the MCEC community of congregations; this week we hold **Community Mennonite Church** in Stouffville, ON in prayer. Pray for this vibrant congregation as they continue discerning what it means to "be church" in many different ways. May God guide their ministry, nurture their creativity, and sustain their life together.

Congregational Notes

Join Susan after worship during Lent to discuss the week's Lenten theme.

Will Stoltz celebrates his 85th birthday on Saturday, March 28. You're invited to a birthday open house that day at Preston Mennonite Church from 1 to 4 p.m. Light refreshments will be served, and the cake cutting is at 2:30. No gifts, please. Your presence is the best gift.

Beyond The Congregation

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

Tri-County Mennonite Homes is looking for members of our 15 supporting congregations to serve on our Board of Directors commencing at our annual meeting in June. If you are interested or have someone to recommend, please contact Bruce Bechtel for more information. 519-801-0470 BBechteltcmhomes.com.

Repair Café - Saturday, March 28, 2026

Do you have a household item that's broken or needs repair? We'll show you how to fix it for free!

Nith Valley EcoBoosters will be hosting our 2nd Repair Café

- Saturday March 28, 2026
- 9:30am – 12:30pm
- Zion United Church, 215 Peel St., New Hamburg

We'll have skilled volunteer fixers on hand for mechanical, woodworking, sewing, mending, knitting, crocheting, jewelry, and book repairs. Do you have questions? Please contact us at:

nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com or check out our website

www.nvecoboosters.com To learn more about the Repair Café

movement visit Repaircafe.org

Stay tuned for more details! Spread the word!

Menno Singers We will feature the premiere performance of EXEQUIEN, a newly commissioned companion piece by composer Stephanie Martin (daughter of Menno Singers founder Abner Martin). Trillium Lutheran Church (22 Willow St, Waterloo) \$40 adults. \$5 children/students. Tickets available at www.mennosingers.com <<http://www.mennosingers.com>> or at the door. **Saturday, March 28 @ 7:30pm**

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. 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
226-808-4353

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