

**ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 24, 2017**

**CALENDAR**

**TODAY 9:45am** Worship Advent 4 *PEACE*   
*Good King Wenceslas: the King who knew the Joy of Giving*, Sunday School musical  
**7:00pm** Christmas Eve Service – Lessons and Carols

**Dec. 31 9:45am** Worship Reflections on the New Year  
Fellowship Time – Christian Education classes resume Jan. 7  
Zehrs/President's Choice and Sobeys grocery cards for sale - 5% of sales is donated to SHOW and MCRS

**Jan. 7 9:45am** Worship – Epiphany  
Carol Penner, preaching  
**11:10am** Christian Education for all ages  
Zehrs/President's Choice and Sobeys grocery cards for sale - 5% of sales is donated to SHOW and MCRS

**MINISTRY & COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**



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*Many thanks* for the thoughtful Christmas wishes, cards, and gifts! We join in wishing you a very Blessed Christmas and much Joy in the New Year!  
~ The Church Staff – Jodie, Doug, Glenda, Darlene and Ingried ~  
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**Loose change** offering: **\$399.55** Thank you for your generosity!

**NEW!** Christmas letter from the Eastwood family.\*

The **Church Office** will be closed December 25, 26, 27, and January 2. It will be open Thursday Dec 28 and Friday Dec 29 from 9:00am-noon. You can make your final 2017 donation during those times, or on Sunday December 31, during the worship service. If those times are not convenient for you, please call Joyce Collard (519.571.8905) to arrange when your donation can be received.

**Reading the Bible with Jesus** with Bryan Moyer Suderman, Friday and Saturday January 12-13. In conjunction with Waterloo North Mennonite and W-K United Mennonite churches, Erb Street will host related events. The Gospel of Luke will be the focus. Events will begin with a soup dinner, community concert, and Session 1 on Friday evening at ESMC. No cost for participants. Brochures will be in mailboxes today (Sunday), on the welcome table, and on the bulletin board. RSVP: Ingried Regier [office@erbstchurch.ca](mailto:office@erbstchurch.ca) or 519.886.3570.

If anyone in the congregation has experience with biofeedback, specifically **neurofeedback or heart rate variability**, please contact Margaret Looker. She is looking for someone to talk to about their first-hand experience with it or someone who has professional knowledge.

**A New Members, Baptism, Anabaptist History Class** for those interested in becoming baptized or new Erb Street Mennonite Church (ESMC) members (or just curious about the pastors' understanding of church history!) will be held on six Wednesday evenings leading up to Holy Week and Easter (January 17 & 31, February 14 & 21, March 7 & 21). On February 21st from 6:30-8pm we have a tentative arrangement for all interested to participate in a tour of the Mennonite Visitors Centre in St. Jacobs led by ESMCers Laurence and Marilyn Martin. Arrangements will be made for child care and an early finish time for all other evening sessions.

**NEW! Story Circle Workshop January 21** (after Sunday School) in the Naomi and Jesse B. Martin Lounge. Story Circle is an integral part of the worship time. We will evaluate our current practices and vision for our children during worship. Bring your ideas, questions, and suggestions. All are welcome. Participate in a workshop led by Eleanor Snyder who, in the past, served the Mennonite Church in its ministry with children. Lunch will be provided.

**NEW! THANK YOU from Stewardship and Finance Committee**

As of last Sunday we have covered projected expenses to the end of the year and met our budget for offering. Not all invoices for the year have been received, but based on forecasts by the ministries and committees, we anticipate a surplus. Thank you for your generosity and support of the Church and the Ministries it supports in 2017.

Offerings as of December 17: \$296,191.15

2017 Budget \$294,288.00

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**Mennonite Burial Society** Annual General Meeting Saturday January 13, 2:00pm, United Mennonite Home (Orchard View Apartments entrance) at 4020 Twenty Third Street, Vineland. Info: Barry Boese [info@mennoniteburialsociety.com](mailto:info@mennoniteburialsociety.com) or 905.228.1850.

**NEW! Dennis Wikerd Retirement Celebration** Sunday January 14, 2:00-5:00pm, Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. Come celebrate Dennis' contribution over almost 40 years of teaching at Rockway.

**Outtatown**-a unique, one or two-semester certificate program. A year for recent high school grads looking to travel, serve others, learn more about God and the world, make lifelong friends, and experience 'once-in-a-lifetime' adventure. Limited space available so apply today! Info:

[Outtatown.com](http://Outtatown.com)

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**NEW!** The Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) program at Grebel and the University of Waterloo is celebrating 40 years. The latest exhibit in the Grebel Gallery, **Beyond Essays: Approaching Peace Education Differently**, showcases some of the most compelling art-based assignments completed by PACS students. The gallery runs from **January 8 to April 13**, with a launch reception on January 18 at 4:00 pm. [grebel.ca/events](http://grebel.ca/events)

**NEW! Fathers and Kids Retreat** Silver Lake Mennonite Camp *January 12-14*. Skate on the lake, build snowmen and igloos, snowshoe through the woods, roast smore's over the campfire, play board games and mini-sticks in the dining hall and watch Hockey Night in Canada on the big screen! Dad's enjoy some free-time on Saturday morning on the couches by the fire (newspapers and coffee will be in abundance) while our staff provide some outdoor programming with the kids. NOTE: Father can be defined as any male adult role model or mentor. Information/registration: [www.slmc.ca/retreats](http://www.slmc.ca/retreats) or 519.422.3200

**NEW! Women's Retreat** Silver Lake Mennonite Camp *February 9-11*. Relaxing in the new sauna, enjoying a massage, reading a book by the fire, snowshoeing/skiing, stargazing on a horse drawn sleigh ride and savouring exceptional food...those are just a few of things to look forward to. Resource person is Tanya Dyck Steinmann. Info/registration: [www.slmc.ca/retreats](http://www.slmc.ca/retreats) or 519.422.3200.

**NEW!** New announcements this week

\*Check bulletin board and literature table for more information.

Church Office: 519.886.3570 [www.erstchurch.ca](http://www.erstchurch.ca)