

ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Sunday September 12, 2021

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

- ❖ **Worship services Sundays 10:00am online through Zoom.** Please call the church office for the Zoom link.
- ❖ **Church office hours: Tuesday–Thursday: 9:00am-2:00pm & Friday: 9:00am-12:00pm**
Please continue to maintain safe procedures in the church facility. Please limit your contact with church staff to phone calls and emails. If it is necessary for you to come into the church building, please observe the following procedures for everyone's safety: if possible, call ahead, wash or sanitize your hands upon entering the building, always maintain recommended physical distance and wear a mask.
- ❖ **Our Associate Pastor, Steph Chandler Burns** is working from home with limited church office hours. Please feel free to connect by email. *Steph:* steph@erbstchurch.ca
- ❖ **Our Interim Supply Pastor, Myrna Miller Dyck** is primarily working from home at this time. Please feel free to connect by email. *Myrna:* myrna@erbstchurch.ca
- ❖ **Crisis Care and Prayer Concerns** During this time, if you have prayer concerns or find yourself needing care during a crisis, please be in touch with the church office, Steph Chandler-Burns or Margaret Nally.
- ❖ **Donations** can be made by E-transfer or E-mail to accounting@erbstchurch.ca, or mailing or dropping off a cheque at the church.
- ❖ Please note that the **weekly deadline for announcements** to be included in the weekly announcements/bulletin is **Thursday 10:00am**. This includes the weekly Order of Worship.

Upcoming Worship Services

Sept. 12	10:00am	Worship – Welcome Service – Steph Chandler Burns preaching
Sept. 19	10:00am	Worship – Myrna Miller Dyck preaching
Sept. 26	10:00am	Worship – Bob Nally Preaching

One Step at a Time - back to church

Now that September is here, it is time to slowly do more things at the church, as well as continuing on Zoom. We have limited capacity allowed currently - about 48. We are feeling our way forward. While we are cognizant of the virulent nature of the virus, we also want to begin coming together in small groups. We are encouraging those who are unable to participate via Zoom to come in person. We are also suggesting that others consider coming in person once during the month of September. We encourage you to read the Pandemic plan again. It can be found on the church website. Here are key points you need to remember:

-mask wearing at all times

-you must contact the church office by Friday noon to let us know you are coming -you will need to have signed a waiver at some point

-use a pew labelled ESMC. Sit 6ft/2m from others

We look forward to seeing you in person in the near future. -Pandemic Task Force

NEW! Introduction to Myrna Miller Dyck

It has been good to start working with you all at Erb St. Mennonite Church! I have had the opportunity to meet some of you via Zoom or in person, and look forward to meeting others soon. I grew up surrounded by the wheat fields of Kansas, but left the farm and got a degree in Elementary Education. I was a teacher and later an Assistant Principal, living in Pennsylvania and in inner city Chicago. I also taught English for three years in Egypt with Mennonite Central Committee. Having grown up in a Conservative Mennonite family and church community, when I decided to attend seminary, I was surprised when friends assumed I would become a pastor. I talked about that journey in my sermon on Sept. 5 which is posted on our website. In my final year of seminary, I met a red-haired Canadian who'd just started taking classes. Not long after we started dating, he accepted the role of editor of the magazine Canadian Mennonite. Smitten with him, I quickly started searching for pastoral positions in Ontario, even in spite of everything I'd heard about Canadian winters. I became a pastor at Steinmann Mennonite Church in 2004, and Tim and I were married the following year. At Steinmann, my primary responsibilities were in pastoral care, worship, and working with children and youth in midweek programs. I enjoyed my years there very much and was there until November 2020. During these years, I served on and then chaired MCEC's Leadership Council, where I worked with the council to credential new pastors to MCEC and deal with pastoral misconduct issues. I also am a coach in MCEC's Transition into Ministry Program, where I mentor new MCEC pastors in their first three years of ministry. I was a Supply Pastor at WK United Mennonite Church this summer. I will be a Supply Pastor at Erb St. until a Transformational Pastor is able to begin. Our congregation has been through very difficult times and the journey of healing will be a long one. I trust that during our months together we will be able to meet together, face-to-face whenever possible. I pray that we will be open to God's Spirit, listening carefully for her leading and courageously taking steps towards healing.

May God's grace be with us all, Pastor Myrna Miller Dyck

NEW! As a follow up to the 'fedge' planting we did on our church property in June, Divest Waterloo is inviting us to the following event on Saturday, Sept 25th. Our church is invited to participate in a final fedge build at [Crow Shield Lodge](#). "Crow Shield Lodge has as their mission "to walk alongside those who are in need of healing. Through Indigenous land-based healing and education they offer connection and belonging to a community dedicated to responsible land stewardship." We will be planting at the lodge on **Saturday September 25th**, and we need your help! Now that you and members of your faith communities are experienced fedge builders, please plan to join us as we work alongside the helpers at the lodge to plant their fedge and work together towards solidarity as a society between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. We will start the build at 10am, and continue until we are done, we have a lot of plants, but with many hands, we hope to be finished by mid-afternoon. Please let Karen Buschert (karen.buschert@gmail.com) know if you are interested in attending.

We wish Kayla Wallace and Patrick Groh God's blessings as they prepare to be married on September 18 at Erb St. Mennonite Church.

Regular weekly prayer time via Zoom Tuesday morning at **9:00am**. The format is simple: we gather, hear a few opening words, spend time together (about 10-15 minutes) in silent prayer and then return to our regular routines of the day. Everyone is welcome! Please call the church office for the link for this prayer space.

Offering Update as of September 5, 2021

	Offering incl average of AFT	Budget	Ahead of Budget (Behind Budget)
Current Week	\$3,449.42	\$4,662	(\$1,212)
Year to Date	\$131,125.77	\$167,823	(\$36,697)
Last Year this time Year to Date	\$151,793.25	\$230,880	(\$79,087)
2 years ago this time Year to Date	\$162,722.25	\$233,171	(\$70,448)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

FOOD TRUCKS are coming to **Erb Street** parking lot! Please join us on Mondays between 4:30 and 7:30 to pick up some food and socialize from a distance. On Monday September 13 Serial Griller will be here, see you there!

Upcoming tentative schedule is: September 20 – Pabla’s
September 27 – El Milagro

NEW! Holy Rest: Reclaiming Sabbath in a Stressed Out World- Join PiE for a reflective and restful evening retreat on Saturday, September 25th from 5-9PM at Waterloo Park. We have booked a spacious picnic shelter so that we can gather outside together rain or shine. This event is for young adults ages 18-35. The cost is \$30 or pay-what-you-can and supper is included. For more information and to register go to www.pastorsinexile.org/holyrest/.

NEW! Passionate about food? Love to cook? Enjoy youth? We've got a place for you! Rockway Mennonite Collegiate is looking for a part-time **Food Services Assistant**. Visit www.rockway.ca/employment to read more about this delicious opportunity. Come join in the fun and learn the secret to the Rockway cookie!

NEW! "Not Traumatic Enough for a Shock Blanket": A thought-provoking exhibit by artist Yasmeen Nematt Alla invites us to consider the importance of trauma-informed community spaces and the ability art has to provide gestures of care. Running from Sept. 7 to March 7, 2022 at the Grebel Gallery. In person gallery visits available upon request. Visit uwaterloo.ca/centre-peace-advancement/grebel-gallery

NEW! Conrad Grebel University College is marking Mennonite Heritage Week by drawing attention to the Indigenous-Mennonite Encounters conference, to be held at Grebel in May 2022, that will include stories and analyses of encounters and relationships between Indigenous peoples and Mennonite settlers. We also offer a list of resources that provides a variety of starting points to learn more about the intersection of Mennonite and Indigenous histories in Canada. Read more: uwaterloo.ca/grebel/news/mennonite-heritage-week-2021

September 14, 7:00 pm – Refugee sponsorship information session at Steinmann Mennonite Church, 1316 Snyder’s Rd. W., Baden, with Moses Moini from Mennonite Central Committee Ontario. Please come and learn how you can help. For information contact Doris Martin 519-576-6936 or martin.dorise@gmail.com

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp is hosting its annual Fall Seniors Retreat on Sept. 20 and 21. Join us virtually on Sept. 20 to explore the topic: "Journey Toward Justice: Equal Rights for Palestinians and Israelis" with Christian Peacemaker Teams and MCEC Palestine-Israel Network. Then gather outdoors with us at Hidden Acres on Sept. 21 for an informal time of connecting with each other and some of our resource people. For more information visit www.hiddenacres.ca or email info@hiddenacres.ca to register. <https://hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat>

NEW! Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) Announcements

1-CMU alumnus and host Jonas Cornelsen kicks off Season 2 of the *So What?* podcast talking with climate researcher Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, CMU's 2017 Scientist in Residence, about Christian faith and climate action. Available where you get your podcasts or at cmu.ca/sowhatpodcast.

2-Xplore: At the Intersection of Faith and Life, A 55-Plus Enrichment Program. Xplore offers courses that investigate dimensions of the Christian faith, our world, and life in it. All without any assignments or examinations! Xplore happens in a six-week block, with online courses offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, beginning October 5. Join us! cmu.ca/xplore.

3-Join us for this year's J.J.Thiessen Lectures on October 26-27, 2021. Dr Edith M. Humphrey will provide three lectures in a series on "Mediation and the Immediate God". Dr. Humphrey is the William F. Orr Professor Emerita of New Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. More at: cmu.ca/jjt

NEW! New announcements this week

Church Office: 519.886.3570 www.erbstchurch.ca <https://www.facebook.com/hymn606/>