

PRESTON MENNONITE CHURCH

**“Being transformed by and extending God’s love
through worship, hospitality and service”**

Sunday May 21, 2023 at 10:30 am



Pastors: Danielle Raimbault 519-502-9262 danielle.pwchurches@gmail.com

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791 Concession Road, Cambridge N3H 4L1 – 519-653-5171

Worship Service

Worship Leader: Nancy Kinsie; Song Leader: Muriel Bechtel
Pianist: Wendy Imrie; A/V Technician: Josh Oliverio
Speaker: Danielle Rimbault

We acknowledge that our church is located on the traditional lands
of the Neutral, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee peoples.

Prelude

Welcome/ Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn: VT #495 Morning Has Broken

Opening Prayer

Old Testament Reading: Job 12:7-10

Hymn: VT #181 Creation Is a Song

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME?

Bible Reading: Luke 10:25-29

Message & Open Mic Time

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Hymn of Response: VT #539 God Speaks to Us in Bird and Song

Creation Response

Prayer time

Offering

Announcements

Sending Hymn: VT #209 We Dream of a Turning

Blessing

Postlude

Next Sunday:

KyongJung will be speaking on *Holy Responsibility/Pentecost*
based on Numbers 20:1-13

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Wed May 31	12:30pm	SCRC meeting
Tue June 6		Fidelias outing
Wed June 7	9:30am	Men's Fellowship Group
Sun June 11		Potluck Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Fairview bus** IS NOT AVAILABLE THIS SUNDAY.
- **Lectio Divina Prayer meeting** Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:30pm. This week's scripture is John 12:1-8. The Zoom link is [here](#).
- **Danielle** will be attending this workshop on Creating Brave and Accessible Space as a congregation on June 3. If you are interested in attending with her, please let her know.
- **Pastor's Summer Book Study:** Over the course of the summer, you are invited to join the pastor's in some summer reading! Every three weeks, people are invited to come and discuss the book chosen for that month. You are welcome to join for as many sessions as you'd like. If you need access to the books, please contact Danielle. The location of the meeting will switch back and forth between churches, but folks from both Preston and Wanner are invited to each week. The books are as follows:
June 21, 2pm at Preston: Freeing Jesus, by Diana Butler Bass
July 11, 2pm at Wanner: Why can't the church be more like an AA meeting? by Stephen R. Haynes
August 2, 2pm at Preston: Who will be a witness? by Drew G.I. Hart
August 29, 2pm at Wanner: Reaching for the Invisible God, by Philip Yancey
- It's time for the next edition of the **Preston Post!** The theme for this edition is "**Signs of Spring!**" Send in your photos of whatever reminds you of Spring! Of course, all submissions are welcome and due to Danielle by **May 23**. Send to danielle.pwchurches@gmail.com or put them in Danielle's mailbox.
- You are invited to "**Jack Wyndham plays the pieces you know**" at Zion United Church, Peel St, New Hamburg on June 10 at 7pm. Jack had been a pianist here at PMC. Entry by donation.



Holy creatures — loving our wild neighbours **May 21, 2023 reflection from Fred & Nancy Kinsie**

We didn't plan it this way.

Forty years ago, living on Kribs Street in the Hespeler part of Cambridge with our two children ages eight and ten, I came home from work and had to remove seven bicycles from our driveway in order to park my car. We were a popular hangout for kids in the neighbourhood. I went in the house and said to Nancy, "we gotta get outta town!"

And so, our move to Chilligo Road, still in Cambridge but now in a quiet, rural setting. Mission accomplished ... no more bikes cluttering up our driveway. However, we did find ourselves still sharing real estate but now it was with birds, animals, reptiles, and insects.

We didn't plan it this way — a peaceful coexistence with our fellow beings — but that's how it turned out. We began feeding birds, first with a single sunflower seed feeder and then the addition of niger seeds and safflower seeds (the squirrels don't fancy them). Eventually, I started scattering sunflower seeds on the ground under the feeders to provide for the squirrels as well, but it was never enough — they still found ways of landing on the sunflower feeder and getting their bellies full.

Then came the hummingbird and oriole feeders, some attached to our kitchen and dining room windows that allows us to watch them up close as they feed only inches away.

And of course, the animals: scurries of chipmunks and squirrels chasing each other for food or just for fun; raccoons emptying the sunflower feeder during the night. Other animals took up residence

under our three decks — groundhogs, skunks, and opossums. Two years ago, a mother fox built a den and raised nine pups under our back deck. We just let her take over the back yard and watched from the windows for the entire month of May.

We've always let the milkweed share our garden, a positive plant for monarch butterflies and in the past decade Nancy has created a pollinator flower bed in our front yard and has been scattering wildflower seeds in the field beside us.

But while we truly believe in coexisting with the creatures in God's creation, we are by no means perfect. Situational ethics have led us to sometimes go against our better nature. We have set mouse traps and ant traps in our kitchen. Nancy will catch spiders or beetles and release them out the front door, but we do swat flies and mosquitoes when they invade our space. We used Round Up for a brief time before learning that it killed the fireflies.

And most recently, as we prepared our home and property for sale, we decided that the resident groundhog had to go. It was eating our flowers and we thought it might discourage potential buyers. So, our neighbour trapped it and released it a few miles away.

Let me finish with a poem I heard on CBC radio just days after the departure of our groundhog. It is by Ada Limón, the current poet laureate in the United States.

Give Me This

*I thought it was the neighbor's cat back
to clean the clock of the fledgling robins low
in their nest stuck in the dense hedge by the house
but what came was much stranger, a liquidity
moving all muscle and bristle. A groundhog
slippery and waddle thieving my tomatoes still
green in the morning's shade. I watched her
munch and stand on her haunches taking such
pleasure in the watery bites. Why am I not allowed
delight? I watch the groundhog closer, and a sound
escapes me, a small spasm of joy I did not imagine
when I woke. She is a funny creature and earnest,
and she is doing what she can to survive.*



EVENTS BEYOND THE CONGREGATION

Crow Shield Lodge invites you to their *Feed the Fire Fundraiser* on Fri May 26 at Victoria Park Pavilion, Kitchener from 7pm to 10:30pm. Music, community, great food, and a silent auction. Tickets [here](#). Donations accepted via the same link and auction items welcome. PMC is donating a wall hanging pieced by Muriel B and quilted by women from our church. Contact Muriel or Nancy K for help to order tickets or to arrange transportation. Suggested ticket price \$20. Another way to support Crow Shield Lodge is to buy a 2024 calendar for \$10. Available June 4 or by contacting Muriel.

57th Annual New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale - May 26 and May 27 - more than just delicious food and a quilt auction, the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale is a chance to connect with community and support MCC. Join the fun! More information at www.nhmrs.com

Water: An Environmental Oratorio is a musical work by Stephanie Martin (daughter to Abner Martin, founding director of Menno Singers). It tells the story of the importance of this precious resource and a community's efforts to protect it. On Sun May 28 at 3pm. Tickets available online [here](#) or at the Centre in the Square box office.

Menno Singers postponed Spring Concert: Mon June 5 at 7:30pm at St Jacobs Mennonite Church. "a light exists in spring" will include music for spring, seasonal congregational hymns, door prizes and refreshments to follow. Adults \$25, children and students \$5. Previous tickets honoured. Purchase new tickets online or at the door. www.mennosingers.com

Tickets for Rockway Mennonite Collegiate's production of FROZEN JR. are now on sale. Visit www.rockway.ca to get your tickets! Performances are June 7 to 10.

Hidden Acres is hosting their **56th Annual Chicken BBQ & 15th Annual Pie Auction Fundraiser** on Tuesday, June 13 from 5 - 7 pm. Come and enjoy our delicious chicken dinner! Please visit hiddenacres.ca for more details and to order your tickets. Tickets need to be purchased in advance.

Family Camping Weekend at Hidden Acres on June 30 to July 2. Bring your family to enjoy the outdoors, go swimming, canoeing and climbing the outdoor climbing tower. Reserve a cabin space at info@hiddenacres.ca. First come, first served for camping spots.

PMC is donating a wall hanging pieced by Muriel Bechtel and quilted by women from our church.

Feed the Fire A fundraiser for Crow Shield Lodge

Friday, May 26th
7pm - 10:30 pm

Silent auction, music, food, community
Special performance by Logan Staats

Artist by Luke Swanson

 PWYC (pay-what-you-can) - suggested \$20
<https://feedthefire2023.eventbrite.ca>

Victoria Park Pavilion,
80 Schneider Ave, Kitchener