

Calendar - This Week

Mon., Sept. 18	2-9:00 p.m.	Private Booking - Music Lessons (Basement Sunday School Room)
Tues., Sept. 19	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry "Sweet and Savoury" Night. Please bring a plate of something Sweet or Savoury. Beverages provided. New knitters are always welcome. (Gathering Room)
Wed., Sept. 20	4-9:00 p.m.	Private Booking - Music Lessons (Basement Sunday School Room)
Thurs., Sept. 21	1:15 p.m.	Seniors' Solo Group. (Basement)
	2-4:00 p.m.	Private Booking - Woolwich Community Services Lunch Preparation (Kitchen)

Calendar - Coming

Sept. 17 Regular Worship Schedule.

- 10:00 a.m. **Worship.** Theme: Windows Into The Word: "Wrestling". (Matthew 11:1-15) Guest Speaker: Bryan Moyer Suderman. Bloomingdale Mennonite Church will be joining us for this service.
- 11:15 a.m. **Sunday School - Age 2-Gr. 8** (Gathering Room)
- 11:30 a.m. **Worship Response.**
- **Youth Study** (Youth Room)
- **Adults** (Basement)

Sept. 26 - "Reading the Bible with Jesus", a 4 session Bible Study on Matthew. Join participants from Elmira and Bloomingdale Mennonite Churches as we interact with and learn alongside Bryan Moyer Suderman. Each Tuesday evening begins with a simple soup and bread supper at 6:15 p.m., followed by our session at 7:00 p.m. Information brochures are available from the foyer table along with a sign-up sheet. (Elmira Mennonite Church)

Oct. 1 - 12:00-3:00 p.m. Youth and Mentors Save the Date. Youth and Mentor Event. Lunch will be provided. Please sign-up on the sign-up sheet on the foyer table by September 25, 2017. (Basement)

Oct. 14 - 8:30 a.m. Registration; 9:00 a.m. Breakfast. KW Perimeter Cluster Ladies' Breakfast hosted by Wanner Mennonite Church Ladies. Guest Speaker: Eileen Henderson, MCC Blanket Program, Grand Valley Institute for Women. The offering project will go to the MCC Blanket Prison Knotting Program. See the sign-up sheet on the foyer table. Tickets: \$10.00 available from our cluster representative, Ella Brubacher. (Breakfast served at Preston Mennonite Church.)

Dec. 2 & 3 - Mark your calendars! SJMC presents "Amahl and the Night Visitors", a one act Christmas opera by Gian-Carlo Menotti, directed by Stephanie Kramer with cast and crew from SJMC. This touching story will appeal to all ages! If you would like to be involved with this production please contact Stephanie Kramer.

Especially for Youth (MYF)

Sept. 22 - MYF Fall Kick-Off. Details will be sent to you by email.

Especially for Youth and Junior Youth

Sept. 30 - Ride for Refuge. Our JYG and MYF are invited to join the team "SJMC Youth Riders" and help raise money for the Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support. Add your name to our online team and start gathering pledges. Talk to Wendy Janzen or Rachel Willms if you have any questions.

Stressed and Anxious? Worried about school, extra-curricular involvements, or your future? Shalom Counselling is offering a group for high school aged youth: "Calm in the Storm" Stress Management for Students. This group runs Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m. (October 17 to December 5 and is offered at no cost to participants thanks to a grant from Shantz Mennonite Church. For further information or to register contact Shalom: admin@shalomcounselling.org or 519-886-9690. See poster on bulletin board for more information.

Especially for Seniors

Oct. 2 - 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. SJMC Seniors' Mystery Bus Tour. Mark your calendars. Sign-up sheet is on the foyer table. There is space for 56 participants. Please sign up one name per line. Additional Information will be available next week.

Oct. 2 or 3 - Fall Seniors' Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp. Theme: "Food and Community" with Marlene Epp, Joe Mancini and Sarah French all sharing. Join in a day of worship, learning and fellowship (same program is offered both days). For more information contact 519-625-8605, info@hiddenacres.ca or www.hiddenacres.ca. Space is limited. Information brochures are available from the bulletin board racks. Please register by September 25, 2017. (Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp).

Beyond Ourselves

- Sept. 17** - 2:30 p.m. *Jim Reimer Memorial Bluegrass Concert*. The show features award-winning Canadian bluegrass band, Rescue Junction, with a special appearance from 5 on the Floor. Admission is free with donations to the Reimer Scholarship in Theological Studies. Go to www.grebel.ca/events for more information. (Conrad Grebel University College Great Hall)
- Sept. 20** - 7:00 p.m. *Information and Consultation Meeting regarding Board Member representation on Rockway Mennonite Collegiate's Board of Directors*. For more information go to <https://rockway.ca/about/board-of-directors/>. Please continue to keep Rockway in your prayers as they work to discern the best way forward in Board leadership at Rockway. (Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, 110 Doon Rd., Kitchener)
- Sept. 21** - 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. *Quiet Days of Prayer 2017-2018, presented by Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada*. "Call to Prayer" facilitated by Alicia Buhler. Cost \$25.00. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee, tea and light snacks provided. For more information or to register, contact Patricia Wagler (226-220-2606 or patewag@gmail.com). (Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp, Wood House, 1921 Line 37, New Hamburg)
- Sept. 22** - Noon. *Join the Conrad Grebel University College community to plant a new sign in the College's Mennonite commemorative garden*. As we continue to educate ourselves about injustice towards Indigenous peoples and recognize their history on this land where Grebel now sits, we acknowledge the need to change the historical narratives of Mennonite settlement in Waterloo Region. (www.grebel.ca/events) (Conrad Grebel University College)
- Sept. 23** - 10:00 a.m. - Noon. *Mini KW Pilgrimage in Support of Bill C262 and the Adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*: Pilgrimage for Indigenous Rights invites you to join us for a guided walk from the Joseph Schneider Haus (466 Queen St S, Kitchener) to Waterloo Park, with stops along the route to learn a little about the settlement of the Haldimand Tract. Plan to stay on at Waterloo Park and enjoy the St. Paul's 14th Annual Traditional Pow Wow. Please contact josie@stirlingmennonite.ca with any questions. See poster on bulletin board.
- Sept. 24** - 2:30 p.m. *Rockway Mennonite Church Grand Opening and Open House*. Come to see their newly renovated facilities at 47 Onward Ave., Kitchener. There will be short program at 2:30 p.m. followed by self-guided tours and refreshments. (Rockway Mennonite Church, 47 Onward Ave., Kitchener)
- Sept. 22-24** - *Men's Retreat at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp*. Join chef and wine sommelier Dave Lobe and resource person Chip Bender for a great weekend! Cost is \$195. Register online - www.slmc.ca/retreats or call the camp office 519-422-3200. Save the Date for the Fathers and Kids Retreat from January 12-14, 2018 and the Women's Retreat from February 9-11, 2018.
- Sept. 27** - 7:00-8:30 p.m. *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way We View Racism*: Rockway Mennonite Collegiate invites parents, teenagers, pastors, and other community members to attend an evening discussion on "Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way We View Racism". Drew Hart, Professor of Theology at Messiah College in Pennsylvania will be the keynote speaker for Rockway's Spiritual Emphasis Week. Hart will give a summary of his 3 chapel addresses and discuss the challenges we are all facing today regarding racism. Rockway is grateful to Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, who is sponsoring the evening session. (Rockway Mennonite Collegiate)
- Sept. 30** - 12:00 p.m. *"Grounded in the Church": MCCO Annual General Meeting*. See poster on bulletin board for more information. Go to www.mcco.ca/agm for more information. (50 Kent Ave., Kitchener)
- Oct. 1** - *Pioneer Park Christian Fellowship will celebrate its 175 years of being a church*. Worship Service at 9:45 a.m. followed by a Potluck meal at noon and "Songs from our History" at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome and especially those who attended in the past. (Pioneer Park Christian Fellowship, 68 Biehn Dr., Kitchener)
- Oct. 14** - 2:00 p.m. *Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario Fall Meeting*, "Celebrating a Century of Mennonite Sewing Circles in Ontario." Come hear the history and personal reminiscences. A tour of Mennonite Central Committee Ontario's Material Resources operations will follow. For more information see the poster on the bulletin board, check out <http://www.mhso.org/content/celebrating-century-mennonite-sewing-circles-ontario> or contact Bethany Leis 519-568-8086. (Community Room, 50 Kent Ave., Kitchener)
- 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. *Empty Bowls for Haiti*. Ontario potters donate the bowls, local restaurants and organizations donate the soup and you keep the bowl. This event supports MCC Ontario and its commitment to sustainable change in Haiti. Tickets are \$30 each and available online (<https://emptybowlsforhaiti.eventbrite.ca>) or by calling MCC at 519-745-8458 or at MCC's office at 50 Kent Ave., Kitchener. See poster on bulletin board. (Steinmann Mennonite Church)

Beyond Ourselves (Continued)

- Oct. 15** - *Erb Street Mennonite Church (ESMC) 180th Anniversary.* Former members, relatives of current members, and friends are invited to join us for all or any of the events. There will be a short service at ESMC cemetery, Fischer-Hallman (FH) and Erb Street at 9:30 a.m. (enter off FH or park in commercial lots at FH and Erb), worship at the church at 10:30 a.m., noon potluck, recognition of First Nations lands, and lastly, room naming and renaming. There is always lots of food at our potlucks, so please join us for lunch. For information contact 519- 886-3570 or office@erbstchurch.ca.
- Oct. 18** - 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. *You are invited to go "Up the Nith" on a heritage tour of the Amish Mennonites* led by Fred Lichti. The group will be leaving from W-K United Mennonite Church. Cost is \$60 per person which includes bus and noon meal. Contact Wally or Gloria Dirks by September 18 (gwdirks@rogers.com or 519-744-1984). Information brochures are available from the foyer table.
- Oct. 20-22** - *Encounter Desire Retreat.* Join Pastors in Exile (PiE) for an intergenerational retreat for those in a season of transition and discernment. Tamara Shantz and Patricia Wagler will facilitate this weekend focused on sacred listening and the spirituality of desire. How might God be calling through our own deepest desires? Go to www.pastorsinexile.org/retreat for more information. *Register by Oct. 4th!* (Creeff Hills Community)

Notes

For our fall "Windows into the Word" worship series, you are invited to bring your Bibles with you to worship. You may also want to look up the Scripture passages listed for the coming Sunday and read them in their fuller context.

SJMC Slate of Ministries for 2017-2018: On September 17, 2017 the new church slate will be presented during the worship service, at which time there will be a congregational vote.

Incorporation Membership Update: "Incorporation Membership Response Forms" were sent out in January to all 314 active members (persons who had formally joined SJMC through baptism, transfer or confession of faith). We received an astounding 87% return rate. Thank-you all for taking this form seriously. Our current active member number is now 235. How did we get to this number?

Active Membership: 235 (231 responses + 4 new members received)

Non-Active Membership: 64 (25 responses + 39 no responses)

There are now 136 Non-Active Members on our record

Transfer Membership to Another Congregation: 2

Withdrew Membership: 12 responses

Deceased members in 2017: 5

It is important to remember that this project focused solely on the active member list as our incorporating bylaw required. However SJMC has a significant and valued Affiliate Non-Member population - Persons who have not formally taken Membership in the Church but who (a) participate in worship, study and/or fellowship/services activities of the Church; (b) are spouses of Members; (c) are children of Members.

More details will be shared Sunday, September 17 during the morning worship service.

SJMC Church Building Security: Finance and Facilities would like to remind groups or individuals that use the church facilities to ensure that ALL the church is closed properly. As our new church year schedule and programs begin it would be helpful and greatly appreciated if the last person leaving the church ensures ALL doors are closed, locked and lights are turned out. Thank you.

Spending Plan Update: As of September 6, \$266,700 has been receipted. **Thank you for your faithful generosity!** While giving is about \$20,000 less than a year ago at this time, we know members have increased support to the Spending Plan as members have moved on or passed away. That is in addition to the many ways you support other projects, initiatives or organizations that also carry on God's important work. For this, we celebrate and give thanks! - *Finance and Facilities*

MCC Responses to Hurricane Irma in Haiti and Cuba and South Asia Flooding:

* MCC is responding to the devastation of Hurricane Irma in Haiti and Cuba. Please join them in addressing the suffering caused by this disaster. Donate online at mcco.ca/hurricane-irma, by calling 519-745-8458 or dropping by one of MCC's thrift stores or offices.

* MCC is providing relief assistance in Nepal, India and Bangladesh after two weeks of severe monsoon rains displaced more than 1.7 million people and killed 1,246 in the region. MCC is working with partners to provide emergency food, water, tarps, mosquito nets and hygiene kits to those affected. MCC welcomes your support for their relief work in the area at mcco.ca/south-asia.

Notes (Continued)

Mennonite Disaster Service Response to Windsor, ON Flooding: Heavy rains in Windsor-LaSalle-Tecumseh in late August saw 6000 calls to the city from homeowners with flooded basements. After a disaster MDS often partners with agencies such as Samaritan's Purse Canada (SPC) and World Renew in the cleanup phase. During clean-up, homeowners not insured and needing further assistance will be flagged for follow-up. If required, MDS will continue in the rebuilding phase. To help clean up call SPC at 1-866-628-6565 to volunteer and indicate you are part of MDS. Individuals and groups will be scheduled as needed. MDS will inform you if and when volunteers are needed for rebuilding. If you have any questions call Martin Durksen with MDS at 905-736-1060.

SJMC Church Directory Revised pages were available last week. A package of new/revised directory pages were in your mailbox last Sunday. Please insert these pages into your directory. NOTE: This is NOT a full reprint so some existing pages have not changed and were not reprinted. Please dispose of your discarded pages in a safe, confidential manner. If you have questions, or have a directory but did not receive the reprinted pages, please contact the church office.

The World Remembers: 1914-1918. Every day from September 24-November 11, the names of 661,818 soldiers and nurses on all sides of the First World War killed in 1917 will be displayed at more than 60 locations around the world. The commemoration is a unique expression of remembrance, reconciliation and education, and shows the enormous human cost of the war. The Mennonite Archives of Ontario Gallery (3rd floor, Conrad Grebel University College) will be one of these display locations. The Gallery is also the location of the exhibit "Sites of Nonresistance: Ontario Mennonites and the First World War." www.uwaterloo.ca/grebel/nonresistance (Conrad Grebel University College)

SJMC Missions Corner Bulletin Board: Check out the Missions corner in the lower foyer for local and global projects.

SJMC Perpetual Food Bank: Woolwich Community Services (WCS) is thankful for our ongoing support of their food bank. For the most part, their shelves are in good shape BUT especially needed at this time are Cookies and egg cartons. Items are collected in the grocery cart in the lower foyer.

See the bulletin board for information and posters of concerts happening in the community.

St. Jacobs Mennonite Church Photo Directory available from the church office. Cost: \$20.00 each.

Cookbooks available: Copies of the St. Jacobs Community Cookbook are available from the church office. Cost: \$15.00.

Volunteer / Employment Opportunities: Check bulletin boards for Volunteer and Employment opportunities.

St. Jacobs Mennonite Church

Box 105, 1310 King Street North, St. Jacobs, ON N0B 2N0

Office Hours: Tues., Wed., and Fri. - 9:00-noon; Thurs-9:00-4:00.

Website: www.sjmc.on.ca

Church Office: Tel.: 519-664-2268

Fax: 519-664-1788

E-mail: church@sjmc.on.ca

In case of emergency outside of regular office hours: 226-929-2268

Pastors:	Mark Diller Harder	519-576-8751	mark@sjmc.on.ca	(Tues. - Fri.)
	Kevin Derksen	519-206-0191	kevin@sjmc.on.ca	(Tues.-Thurs.)
	Wendy Janzen	519-569-8274	wendy@sjmc.on.ca	(Tues. & Thurs.)
Office Administrator:	Karen Sauder	519-664-2268	karen@sjmc.on.ca	