

- **A procedure for initiating a church closure in case of inclement weather:** a representative from church council and pastor will decide by 7:30 am; an email to BMCers will be sent no later than 8 am; the message on the church answering machine and church website will mention the closure.
- **Please remember** when coming to BMC during the week, sign the sheet on the table in the foyer for Covid contact tracing and lock the doors when leaving.
- **BMC Advent Christmas songs** recorded in 2020 for worship are available to hear (and see) on our church web site Login Page. If you have questions about the Login page, contact the church office.
- **BMC past worship services online** are up-to-date and available in the Login section of the BMC website - BMC Worship Video Archives www.breslaumc.ca

Beyond the Congregation

- **Conrad Grebel University College: What would it be like to live in a museum?** Check out "Life Upstairs" a digital exhibit (Chris Steingart's great web project!) of the **Brubacher House museum**. www.lifeupstairs.ca Jillian Burkhardt and Chris Steingart lived at Brubacher House from 2004-2006.
- **Mennonite Central Committee: The Power of Partnership**, Thursday, February 24 at 6 pm, 425 Bingham Centre Drive, Kitchener. Join us and best-selling author Malcolm Gladwell as we discuss the Power of Partnership and how a legacy of partnership with local, on-the-ground organizations can bring peace, dignity and hope to those who need it most with the unintended consequence of creating more peaceful communities. This event will also be livestreamed. For more info, go to powerofpartnership.ca.
- The **Coldest Night of the Year Elmira** walk is taking place on Sat Feb 26. We will be offering an in-person (full outdoor) walk this year with the option to walk virtually. For more information or to sign up, visit: <https://cnoy.org/location/elmira>

Stewardship & Finance

As of December 29, our offering / income total stands at \$263,826, and our revised expense forecast is \$275,057.

We require \$11,231 in offering donations to cover our congregation-approved expenses for the year.

Thank you for your generous contributions, as we strive to reach our year end goal.

Donations can be mailed/delivered to the church office, delivered electronically using E-transfer (to donations@breslaumc.ca) or via monthly AFT donation. To set up monthly AFT, please contact Sharon Brown at 519-239-7741 or sharondbrown@rogers.com



BRESLAU MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday January 2, 2022
Dare to imagine God's dance!

GATHERING AND PRAISING GOD

- Prelude** Now the Heaven's Start to Whisper #237 VT
- Welcome**
- Call to Worship** Byron & Karen Good
- One Come and in a holy dance – a dance God has been imagining since the beginning.
- Many We come, weeping.**
- One Join in God's comforting dance.
- Many We come with nothing.**
- One Join in God's dance of abundance.
- Many We come, feeling disconnected.**
- One Join in God's intimate dance.
- Many We come, although we do not know how to dance.**
- One Will we dare to learn the moves? Do we dare step onto the dance floor?
- Many We join in God's daring dance.**
- Gathering Prayer**
- Hymn** Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness #1 STS

HEARING GOD'S WORD

- Children's Story** Eleanor Epp-Stobbe
- Theme Hymn** Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets #276 VT
- Scripture** Psalm 147:12-20; John 1:1-18
- Sermon** Dare to imagine God's dance in our life & in the world
Brandon Hadfield, Brent Schmidt
- Hymn** See Whose Glory Fills the Skies #274 VT

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

- Praying Together**
- Hymn** O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem #275 VT
- Benediction**
- Postlude** Star of the East

VT - Voices Together
STS - Sing the Story

We acknowledge with gratitude the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishnawbe, and Neutral peoples upon our church stands. We seek a new relationship with Indigenous peoples, one based in honour and deep respect.

Worship Leader Byron Good
Accompanists Elouise Martin, Adrian Martin, Pearl Wideman
Lynette Gossen, Janet Auger, Randy Brown, Linden Gossen,
Chanel Cressman, Allison Dyjach, Chris Derstine, Janice Klassen,
Jeremy Roth, Eric Hiebert Rempel, Karl Braun, Neil Snyder, Matt Rappolt,
Stacey VanderMeer, Jillian Burkhardt, Chris Steingart, Justin Martin,
Scripture Reader Eleanor Epp-Stobbe
Digital Tech Doris Gingerich, Eleanor Epp-Stobbe

Joys and Concerns

- Pray for **John Bullock** and **Nancy Dickieson**, as **John** receives treatment for cancer of the esophagus.
- Pray for **Lynne Hoffman**, as **Lynne** rests at home with a broken elbow/arm. Lynne's arm is in a cast, restricting movement in her dominant arm.
- **A prayer for a New Year & Epiphany (Jan 6):** *Be with us God, as we set out on the journey of a new year, new beginnings, and new hope. Give us the grace and strength we need, the compassion and sensitivity others need from us, and the wisdom and humility to respond in ways that nurture all of creation. Amen.*

Calendar of Coming Events

Sun Jan 2 9:45am Worship Online - Dare to imagine God's dance!
Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:18
Brandon Hadfield and Brent Schmidt preaching

Tues Jan 4 7:00pm BMC reopening working group meets via Zoom

Wed Jan 5 7:00pm Church Council meets via Zoom

Sat Jan 8 2:00pm Truth & Reconciliation Working Group, Room 100

Sun Jan 9 9:45am Worship Online - Wellness of Body, Mind & Soul
Psalm 139:1-16; 1 Corinthians 12:12-26,
Guest Speaker: Wanda Wagler Martin

Sun Jan 9 11:15am Adult Christian Education - Wellness of Body, Mind & Soul with guest speaker Wanda Wagler Martin. Zoom link
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84157992974?pwd=djhUVUpscDM0cHN1dTkvNOZPWDJVVU09> Meeting ID: 841 5799 2974 Passcode: 285879

Birthdays

Jan 1 Dorothy Shantz Jan 5 Pearl Wideman

Announcements

- **BMC Reopening Update** – For this Sunday, BMC worship services will be online. BMC Covid-19 Safety Protocols
<https://www.breslaumc.ca/about-us/covid-19-safety-protocols>

- At the congregational meeting on October 27 a decision was made to approve the Special Discernment Committees recommendation for the distribution of land funds. As a result of this decision a **Short-term Missions Harvest Fund** with an amount of \$225,000 will be disbursed as soon as decision process is completed. Proposals are to be submitted to the Special Discernment Committee by January 31st, 2022. All BMCers are invited to submit proposals using the application form available in the Land Use Funds area of the BMC website. www.breslaumc.ca For more information, please contact any member of the Special Discernment Committee: Byron Good (chair), Scott Bruinsma, Ted Rowe, Brent Schmidt, Carolyn Snider.
- BRRRRR! IT'S COLD OUT! **Share the Warmth fundraiser** is occurring until the end of January. The **BMC Missions Committee** is accepting donations of touques, mittens, gloves and socks for children, youth and adults. These items need to be new. Gently used children's snow pants can be donated. If you would like to donate cash that is appreciated too. These items will be donated to oneROOF (youth outreach program), House of Friendship, and Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region. Items can be placed on the display in the foyer or under the Christmas tree at the front of the sanctuary.
- **Thank you to all those who completed the BMC Reopening Working Group survey in November.** The survey results were presented and discussed at Church Council. Please read a summary of the survey results and next steps on the BMC website in the login section at: www.breslaumc.ca
- **Children's Ministry Team** would like to thank all the families for participating in virtual Sunday School during Advent. It was so much fun being able to reconnect and see each other's faces again. We hope you enjoyed your final craft, don't forget to send pictures to Amanda. Watch your email for a [quick survey](#) to let us know what you enjoyed and what could be improved.
- **The December Church Council Minutes** are posted on the website www.breslaumc.ca

Ministers: All Persons in the Congregation

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Pastor Eleanor Epp-Stobbe eleanor@breslaumc.ca

Children, Youth & Young Adult Coordinator Amanda Snyder

amanda@breslaumc.ca

Administrative Assistant Doris Gingerich office@breslaumc.ca

BMC phone & email are regularly checked.

Elders Janet Auger Nick Betik Pauline Gingrich

Pat Klassen Heather McGill Jeremy Roth