

MacNeill Baptist Church

News and Notes

Church Moderator: Jonathan Purdy

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: Susan St John

Director of Music: Monica Admiral

Custodian: Sandy Palin

Associate Ministers in Chaplaincy: Robert Bond, Claire Gosselin,
David Jones, Felida Toledo

February 25 2024

The service is live-streamed at Sundays at 11 am, with access to the video available for later viewing. See the link on our website.

For our in-person worship service, for accessibility for those with differences in hearing, there are a limited number of printed copies of today's sermon and scripture readings available at the Cline Street entrance of the church.

Next week: Paula Papky preaching

MacNeill has a scent-free policy. Masks are optional.

Wifi Network: MacNeill, password is 3485 6101 5200

Bible Quest Leader today:

Pastoral Care: When you would like someone to pray with, to request a pastoral visit, or to publish a prayer request please contact Susan St John at 905-512-9897 or [sstjohn.macneill@gmail.com](mailto:ssjohn.macneill@gmail.com)

Pastoral Care Team: Heather Hobbs, Olga Jenkins, David Jones, Bruce Papky, Feli Toledo and Beverly Woods.

Your continued financial support of our congregation is appreciated. Donations can be mailed to the church, or made through e-transfer at donations@macneillbaptist.ca, or from the Donate Now link our website.

www.macneillbaptist.ca

Thank you for your continued generosity.

St David's Celebration. Sunday March 3

A MacNeill Tradition: Daffodils in the sanctuary and Welsh Cakes at coffee hour next Sunday.

Easter Flowers

Now that we are in the season of Lent and looking towards Easter it's time to think about our Easter flower garden. For anyone wishing to donate, Lynn will gladly accept your gift.

Resurrecting Our Easter Breakfast

The Easter Breakfast is a long established tradition at MacNeill, unfortunately interrupted by COVID. We want it back. We have most of the personnel, (Pancakes and sausage cookers, fruit cutters, setup crew, etc.) **We need an organizer/manager.** When you (yes you) agree to be that person, let Al Palin know and he will provide you with all the information and help you need and we will once again enjoy breakfast on Easter morning.

Pen Pals for students

Recently Outreach and Service met with Student Open Circles, a supportive social group at McMaster. When asked how we might help them, they suggested a pen pal exchange with seniors. Who among us would like to be a pen pal with a student? If you would like to write to a student please let Al Palin know. We will set up the exchange.

Knitting Club? Would you be interested in organising a knitting group? Let Al know....

Towards Susan's Ordination: Important date for the Congregational Diary from The Deacons Board- TODAY at 2 pm

Over the last two years, Susan has been assiduously pursuing her path to Ordination. The next step is around the corner. It is with The Gathering of Baptists that Susan seeks credentialing. Following The Gathering's protocol, it is the local Congregation (utilizing its own process) that ordains, whereupon The Gathering renders a decision to hold the person's credentials.

All members and adherents of MacNeill are invited to a special congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday February 25 at 2PM in the sanctuary. Susan already has provided (via e-mail and in print) her statement of faith; it is necessary that attenders will have read it in advance. That afternoon, Susan will provide a brief overview/review and then engage us in a question-and-answer conversation whereupon members and adherents will vote on a two-part motion. Note that members of The Gathering of Baptists will be invited to this meeting in a non-voting role.

While this meeting will also be on ZOOM, it is hoped that as many as possible will come in person. If unable to attend, there is the opportunity to assign a proxy vote, by contacting either Bob Bond or Heather Hobbs (Deacons Co-Chairs) either by phone or e-mail (contact information in the church directory). The following are the ballot questions:

1. That the congregation of MacNeill supports Susan's request for ordination and agrees that MacNeill can convene a Service of Ordination to take place in Spring 2024: Yes.... No.....
2. That the congregation of MacNeill supports requesting that Susan's credentials be placed with The Gathering of Baptists: Yes No

Sinfonia Ancaster Concert- Friday March 3 at 7 pm

"Half the Sky", a celebration of women composers and performers.

Featuring Megan Jones (violin) and Elspeth Thomson (viola) in

Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante and Pulitzer prize winner Caroline Shaw's 2012 work **Entr'acte for String Orchestra**.

Box office tickets: <https://www.memorialarts.ca/music/sinfonia-ancaster-presents-half-the-sky>

Lent/Easter Worship

Maundy Thursday, March 28 at MacNeill Baptist Church

Good Friday Friday, March 29 at St. Cuthbert's Presbyterian Church

Easter Morning Worship at MacNeil on **Sunday March 31**.

Consider inviting your friends.

Prayer Requests

Prayers are requested for **Edelma K**, sister-in-law of Monica K as her journey with cancer continues. This is in addition to prayers for Monica's cousin **Shelly K** and niece **Lynne K**.

Jamie C's wife and daughter (Liz's son) are struggling with health issues. **Tamara** is still suffering concussion headaches after a car accident and **Isla** (who is diabetic) is also dealing with hypersensitivity. The family just lost their beloved dog too. Please pray for them.

Please pray for **Bob & Lynn B.** and their family. Bob has just returned home after a long hospital stay.

Please pray for **Michael and Jonie**, MacNeill neighbours, as Jonie's cancer recovery is ongoing.

Indra H. as she serves in support of her husband **Mel** and struggles with her own health issues.

Paul G., friend of Lynn and Bob, who is going through some serious and life changing health issues.

Ryan C, a friend of Susan S.'s family, who is struggling with addictions and severe health problems.

Ed S, who is dealing with the early stages of Alzheimer's.

Cheryl and Charles S who appreciate our ongoing prayers and concern.

Garth's parents, **Denny and Mair**.

Martina S. whose health is quite fragile, and for John and son Danny who support her so well.

Bev M and Bruce W, friends of Nancy and John D, who are experiencing serious health issues.

Which Road To Take

Which road to take, I can not tell,
What future could each hold?
For both seem so inviting
Unknown mysteries they hold.

One path is filled with sunlight
On the other, shadows fall,
But further down the road of life
What dangers shall befall?

I cannot know the future.
It is not mine to foretell,
But I now must choose the pathway
Where my talents can excel.

I have my Lord to lead me
Whether hail, or rain, or sleet,
As I'm guided by his Spirit
So I shall not fear defeat.

In the Presence of Your People

Brent Chambers & Bert Polman

Brent Chambers



1. In the presence of your peo - ple I will praise your name,
2. All who love you sing your prais - es and pro - claim your power,
3. All who seek your rule will praise you and be sat - is - fied;



for a - lone you are ho - ly, en - throned on the wor - ship of those who love.



Let us cel - e - brate your good - ness and your stead - fast love;
You have not ig - nored our suf - fer - ing but have heard our cry;
All the peo - ples of the na - tions will bow down to you;



may your name be ex - al - ted here on earth and in heaven a - bove.