

This is a compilation of people who have agreed to be available for speaking assignments in congregations. Except for MCEC staff persons, individuals on this list do not directly represent MCEC and as such MCEC does not accept responsibility for their views or presentations. Please make all arrangements for availability, honorarium and travel expenses directly with the individuals.

Brice Balmer

Brice Balmer is secretary for Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition. He preaches, teaches, and consults with the congregation, especially in addictions, spirituality, poverty, inter-faith, community planning, and social justice.

Believing that all congregations are different, Brice prefers to negotiate with leaders on topic, style of presentation, and issues to be addressed. Brice's preaching begins with biblical text(s) and congregationally identified concerns.

Brice charges \$100 / hour plus transportation costs, which is the set fee of Teaching Circle; included in the \$100 is an hour of teaching or a sermon plus the three hours needed for preparation (thus equals \$25 / hr).

Email brice@golden.net

Victor Dorsch

I am now basically involved in ministry to seniors at Nithview Home. I would have interest in challenging the average congregation concerning a call to ministry from my own experience at the age of six, and how God guided me into mission work and pastoral ministry.

Preference for Sunday morning service or in an interactive activity setting. Usually I am not available on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Telephone: 519 662 4935 or email vicvidor@porchlight.ca

Barb Draper

I deeply love the church and serve in many ways. I graduated from the MTS program at Conrad Grebel in 1997 but did not feel called as a pastor. I have expertise in the history of the Mennonite Church (especially 19th century Ontario). I also enjoy writing skits and dramas for the church.

Preferred presentation style is Sunday sermon or classroom setting (interactive)

Telephone: 519.669.1884 or email: edassist@canadianmennonite.org

Donna Jean Forster

I speak about mission centered events or themes and issues related to poverty/justice and the work of the Welcome Inn Community Centre (Hamilton). If unfamiliar with Welcome Inn, visit website for information and ideas: www.welcomeinn.ca

Available for Sunday mornings and Sunday school settings. Would prefer a donation to Welcome Inn.

Telephone: 905-525-5824 or email: exdir@welcomeinn.ca

Sarah Freeman

I am in the first stages of a PhD in pastoral ministry. My focus is homiletics, aka preaching. I also have experience writing Gather Round curriculum for children and as a youth pastor.

I enjoy any presentation style including preaching, small groups, teaching Sunday school classes, or leading interactive activities with adults or youth. I am also able to prepare children's stories.

My studies allow me a flexible schedule and so I am available for Sundays but also other days of the week. I am in Toronto, however, I have family in Kitchener Waterloo and a car to drive to various other locations.

Email: srpinnell@gmail.com. I do not have a phone, so I check email frequently

Miriam Frey

My gifts lie in the area of prayer and spiritual formation. I am interested in helping people listen to God in everyday life. Topics include: Spiritual Direction, small group ministry, Enneagram, Prayer, Dreams, and celebrating diversity within the congregation.

Prefers small groups or Sunday sermons, working primarily with adults interested in their spiritual lives.

Preferred Contact: mfrey@sentex.ca Secondary Contact: 519-880-9684

Elwin Garland

Elwin is primarily interested in a general preaching ministry either from the lectionary or thematic.

Elwin's preference would be for either a Sunday morning or evening invitation. He is available most Sundays and does not have a preference for a geographical area provided mileage is paid. His usual fee is an honorarium from the church or the prescribed fee, if one is set.

Telephone: 519-887-9017 e-mail at geg417@live.ca

Glyn Jones

Glyn is an ordained pastor in MCEC having served with Mennonite Central Committee in Egypt teaching English as a Second Language, as Youth Minister for MCEC, pastor of Wilmot Mennonite Church and most recently as a Mission Worker for Mennonite Church Canada serving for six years in the country of Botswana, Africa.

Glyn is available to speak in whatever capacity is requested. Sermons, Sunday School settings, youth/young adult groups or other small group settings. He is also able to participate in longer thematic series. His current interest lies in his lifelong love of missions and his most recent experience of walking along side our African Independent Brothers and Sisters in Botswana.

Currently living in Kitchener he is willing to travel throughout Southern Ontario. A gratuity according to MCEC guidelines or better plus mileage would be expected.

Telephone: 519.208.2796 (home) 226.339.1050 (cell) email: susanglyn@gmail.com

Susan Allison-Jones

Susan is an ordained pastor in MCEC having served with Mennonite Central Committee in Egypt teaching English as a Second Language, as Youth Minister for MCEC, one of the pastors of Breslau Mennonite Church and most recently as a Mission Worker for Mennonite Church Canada serving for six years in the country of

Botswana, Africa.

Susan is available to speak in whatever capacity is requested. Sermons, Sunday School settings, youth/young adults groups, women's groups or other small group settings. She is also able to participate in longer thematic series. Her main interest lies in relating her experience of walking along side our African Independent Brothers and Sisters and in exploring the way in which God's moves us out of comfort zones and stretches and challenges us to follow in obedience.

Currently living in Kitchener she is willing to travel throughout Southern Ontario. A gratuity according to MCEC guidelines or better plus mileage would be expected.

Telephone: 519.208.2796 (home) 226.808.4353 (cell) email: susanglyn@gmail.com

Earl Meyer

Preaching ministry and chalk pastel drawings

Prefers Sunday Services, and programs 45min to 60 min with a musical background while doing a chalk pastel drawing with a colored lighting conclusion. A darkened room is needed for the lighting effect.

Groups have given an honourarium

Telephone: 519.893.6424 or email: ce.meyers@yahoo.ca

Lydia Neufeld Harder

I can provide a general preaching ministry and am particularly interested in teaching style sermons.

I like to preach but also to teach in an interactive style. My preferred audience is adults of any age. I also do children's stories.

I am part of the teaching Circle and my fee is in line with those fees (\$100.00 an hour which means 25.00 for 4 hours of prep time). I can travel if travel expenses will be paid.

Telephone: 316.691.8553 or email: lydia.harder@utoronto.ca

Bertha Landers

Retired pastor with interest in pulpit supply and worship

Geographical area: K-W and nearby surroundings- e.g. Elmira, New Hamburg, Tavistock. I do not enjoy the 401 any more!

Telephone: 519.745.0069 or email: blanders@sentex.net

Ruth Martin

General preaching ministry. Available after January, 2008

Prefers to take requests from congregations in general Kitchener-Waterloo/Stratford/Hamilton who are no more than a two hour drive from New Hamburg

Preference for Sunday sermons.

Contact by phone at 519.662.4873 or email: alvin-ruth@sympatico.ca

Sherri Martin-Carman

Available to speak to congregations in MCEC in my role as Development Associate for AMBS. Could offer sermon, and/or a presentation about the ministry of Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Might have limited availability to speak more generally as well (not as AMBS representative). I am a former pastor in MCEC, a graduate of AMBS, and prefer preaching fairly traditional sermons, with some creative elements as an option.

Preferred style: Sunday sermons, small group presentation to young adults /adults.

Telephone 519.669.1005 or email: jsmc@kw.igs.net

When speaking for AMBS, this ministry is available for free to MCEC congregations (however honorariums can be given to AMBS if congregations would like to support the ministries of AMBS). When speaking more generally, \$100 is requested for a Sunday sermon as well as mileage paid if travelling more than 50 km.

John Peters

John is currently engaged with Meserete Kristus College in Ethiopia, having taught there in 2006 and 2007. He and his wife served as missionaries in the jungle area of Brazil from 1957-1967. He taught at Wilfrid Laurier University for thirty years as a sociologist. John is committed to the world church, having taught in Lithuania, Kazakhstan and Ethiopia.

John would be glad to simply step into the series that is being used at any particular time by a congregation, follow the church calendar, or take a topic of the congregation's choice. He is committed to God's work in the church.

Telephone: 519.885.6422

Edmund Pries

Fluent in both English and German. Preaching. Teaching Sunday school series on various subjects, i.e. Anabaptist History and Theology (10 Session Series), Atonement Theology (5 Session Series), numerous other historical and theological topics, church seasonal series related to Advent or Lent, have also done various music historical series etc.

Prefers to follow the lectionary and the church year for sermons. Also engages the current issues of the day; seeks to do justice to the historical context and the meaning of the text. Also seeks to have the Biblical text interact with the world of the listeners.

For a preaching assignment, Sunday school or workshop series, a reasonable fee would need to be negotiated. Depends on travel and availability.

Telephone: 519-578-0003 or Fax: 519-743-6490 or Email: epries@citycorp.ca or edmund@pries.ca

Elmer John Thiessen

I am a semi-retired philosopher/theologian who has recently moved to Waterloo. While living in Alberta for most of my career, I was very active in my church as Moderator, Elder, Lay-minister and Sunday school teacher. I have also preached and given teaching seminars in other churches, including a year of pulpit supply in the Seven Persons Church while they were without a pastor. I love the church and feel called to the preaching and teaching ministry.

I like topical preaching, but am quite happy to follow the church's calendar or lectionary. My passion is to make God's Word come alive in today's world. Some possible topics for seminars or a Sunday school series: Biblical Ethics for Today's Postmodern Society; A Christian Worldview; A Biblical Approach to Knowing; Doubt; Committed Openness; Christian Education in the Home and the Church.

I am available during most of the year, except for the occasional teaching stint overseas and some holidays during the summer months. Regarding payment, I am open to the honorarium and expense policy in a church.

Contact: (519) 746-8281; ejthiessen@sympatico.ca

Heather Whitehouse

Heather Whitehouse is currently completing her 4th (last) year of a M.Div degree. As a part of that degree program she spent a full year as student pastor at Bethany Mennonite Church. She has preached at several Mennonite congregations. Heather provides a general preaching service. Her sermons are strongly Christ-centered messages that draw applications for today.

Heather enjoys congregational Sunday services preaching. The geographical area Heather serves is both Niagara peninsula and greater K-W area.

An honourarium to cover mileage and a meal is appreciated.

Telephone: 905.937.9191 or Email heatherstip@sympatico.ca

MCEC STAFF

Brian Bauman, Mission Minister

Presentations typically focus on the mission of the local congregation and their support of MCEC in mission. Sermons, S.S. classes, meeting with Mission Committees and other Leadership groups are educational and inspirational. People are invited to see God at work in the midst of their local context as well as the wider church. Evangelism in a Mennonite Perspective, Church Planting, Paul's Mission Journey and Love Your Neighbour are a few current themes.

Telephone: 519.650.3806 / 800.206.9356 or Email brian@mcec.ca

Muriel Bechtel, Conference Minister

Calling and vocation, the church's role in forming leaders, ministry and leadership in times of transition, the meaning of licensing and ordination, blessing those who lead.

Sermons, interactive settings such as informal worship settings or small groups. Subject to availability

Telephone: 519.650.3806 / 800.206.9356 or Email muriel@mcec.ca

David Martin, Executive Minister

My presentations are usually focused on the mission and vision of the MCEC community of congregations and how we engage our common mission at the local congregational level as well as at the Area Church and national level. Sermons are biblically based and will challenge listeners to engage the call/mission of the church. Education and awareness related to MCEC and MC Canada ministries is reserved primarily for small group or Sunday School settings. I enjoy an interactive approach to small group presentations. As time permits, I am also open to working at congregational discernment around vision and direction setting.

Presentations options can include sermons, small group presentations, and Sunday School class interactive engagement about the ministries of MCEC. Depending on availability, congregational or small group retreats may be an option.

Flexible availability depending on schedule with the exclusion of the July and August

Telephone: 519.650.3806 / 800.206.9356 or Email dmartin@mcec.ca

Maurice Martin, Regional Minister

I can speak to virtually any topic, having sermons on file for the past 30+ years! I am glad to work with the lectionary texts of the day, or with seasonal/topical sermons as the congregation requests.

However, in my role as regional minister, I would especially like to address themes related to congregational life and ministry. For example several sermon titles: Is it a Hard Life? (the labour and joy of Christian community), Creative Disarray - Leading the Church through changing times, Authentic Community - grace at the table, Whose ministry is this anyway?

I also have sermons in hand on stewardship and generosity. And several on dealing with our busyness: Do you have the time? The urgent versus the important

I would be glad to preach in a congregation, with sermon discussion group to follow. Would also be glad to teach a Sunday School class on a topic pertinent to the life and work of the church - its life together and its ministries.

Will travel, so long as mileage is covered beyond our Region.

Conference guidelines for fees - and somewhat more if I create new material for preaching or teaching contexts on specified topics.

Telephone: 662-1031 or Email: mauricem@sympatico.ca

Al Rempel, Regional Minister

I would be delighted to participate in your service of worship or adult education time. I am open to speaking on a number of themes including but not limited to Christian discipleship, stewardship and missional vocation.

I am open to being a resource for interactive events large or small chiefly dealing with themes around generosity and vision.

Telephone: 905-346-3319 or Email: arempel@mcec.ca

Jeff Steckley, Congregational Ministries Minister

I would be happy to provide an update on the work of Congregational Ministries Council. Other themes that I'd be open to working with include: stewardship, gift discernment - identification of assets, new ministry directions for congregations

I will do interactive activities with small or large groups, Sunday Christian Education time or Sunday sermon

Telephone: 519.650.3806 / 800.206.9356 or Email: jsteckley@mcec.ca