

This weekend it will be six months since the War on Gaza began. With countless others, we share the outrage, grief, and sense of helplessness this violence and war have awakened. Like you, our hearts are heavy and filled with sorrow.

Rooted in compassion, peace and justice, our hope is that congregations in our area, will observe the six months and pray for the people affected by this war on **Sunday, April 7th**.

Many of our congregations have been praying. Some have participated in a prayer walk, a prayer vigil, a hymn sing protest, a silent march. A few churches have invited speakers to talk about their first-hand experience of life in Palestine and Israel, others have had bible studies prepared by the church in Palestine. Small groups have been created to learn more about the history and the people of the Holy Land. How will your church mark the six months of war?

We are three Christian women who have been actively involved in the work for peace for Palestine and are writing to encourage you and to offer some support if needed.

We can put you in touch with local folk (Palestinian, Jewish, and Christian) who are willing to speak. We can forward to you worship resources and links to denominational websites. We can connect you to people who are part of the local Palestinian Network or send you a list of local events and opportunities.

Thank you for all you and your church are doing to pray for and to work for peace and justice.

Yours sincerely,

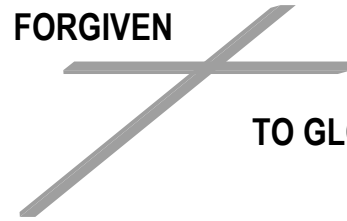
Linda Ashfield (retired Presbyterian minister)

Lindajoanashfield@gmail.com

Kathy Bergen (Coordinator of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Palestine/Israel Network) bergenkathy@gmail.com

Kathy Douglas (Faith Formation Minister, Antler River Watershed, Horseshoe Falls, Western Ontario Waterways Regional Councils, United Church). kdouglas@united-church.ca

FORGIVEN



TO GLORIFY, WITNESS & SERVE



KITCHENER EAST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Established 03rd May 1987

Minister:

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Richardson

Minister in Association:

Rev. Jeff Smith

Music Director:

Sarah Pottier

Sunday 07th April 2024 10:30 am

**The Church of Jesus the Saviour
Celebrates the Good News
of God's Love for the World
Made Manifest in Jesus His Son
as we learn to share Christ's Love with everyone**

Celebrating the Truth of the Presence of God – Alleluia!

Call to Worship:

Praise: “His Name Is Wonderful” SB #62

Welcome, and announcements:

Celebrating the Truth of Forgiveness – We Receive New Life!

Praise: “Alleluia” SB #8

Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer:

Celebrating the Truth of God's Word! - We are Listening!

Scripture: St. John 20:19-31 NLT

Message: “I doubt it”

Celebrating the Truth of God's gifts to us – We Are Accountable

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings:

+ Offertory

Doxology: “**God my Father loving me**” vs 3, 4 BP #359

Prayer of Dedication

Praise: “Hallelujah! Hallelujah!” BP #188

Celebrating the Truth of our Going Forth – We Leave for Ministry

Benediction:

Interpersonal Benediction: “Change my heart” SB #62

WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS TEAM: PRAYER REQUESTS

Warnock Aitken – St. Joseph's Life-Care Centre, Brantford

Frank De Vries – at home

Pearl Howden – Trinity Village LTC

Frank Ingold – at home

Bob Kenzie – Sunnyside Home

Mary Master – Conestoga Lodge

Dolly McCormack – Court at Laurelwood Retirement Home

Marg McCorriston – at home

Terry McCorriston – at home

Julie Phoenix – Southbridge London Long Term Care Home

Curt Ryan – AgeCare West Williams LTC

Shirley Steinberg – Highland Place Retirement Residence

Glen Verheye – at home

Sunday School:

We are having bi-weekly Sunday School running in 2024: **April** 14, & 28; **May** 12, & 26; **June** 9, & 23. We have split the group: Grade 5 and under, and Grade 6 and up, to create a more engaging experience for our older children.

We are looking for more Sunday School teachers, helpers, or back-ups to join the team. If interested, please contact Cathrine (gcejtaylor@gmail.com), Nicolene (nclemens7@yahoo.ca) or Johnson (srikanthjohnson@gmail.com).

We can't wait to share and grow with the children this year.

Peace and Joy, Cathrine, Nicolene, & Johnson

Grocery Cards:

We are participating in the grocery gift card program in our Region. If you would like to purchase grocery gift cards for the PC group of stores, and/or the Metro group of stores, please speak with Barb Cook, Rob Gloin, or Emmie Richardson. They are available every week. We receive a small amount back from the Community Charity Services, for each card we sell.

From the Finance Team: options for financial giving to KEPC:

- 1) **Canada Post:** send your offering envelope in an envelope addressed to the Church: 10 Zeller Dr, Kitchener, ON, N2A 4A8
- 2) **E – transfer:** This involves using your online banking application using the e-transfer option & sending the transaction to the Church email: kepc@golden.net
- 3) **PAR: pre-authorized remittance.** This is set up once and an amount is withdrawn from your bank account monthly until you choose to stop it or change the amount. Contact Chris Clemens clemensc78@yahoo.ca and he can set you up.
- 4) **Tithe.ly** on our website, (click on the menu “Donate Now”) and donations can be through your Visa, Mastercard, or Debit.
- 5) The locked, **black box** on the wall of the sanctuary by the main doors for your offerings.

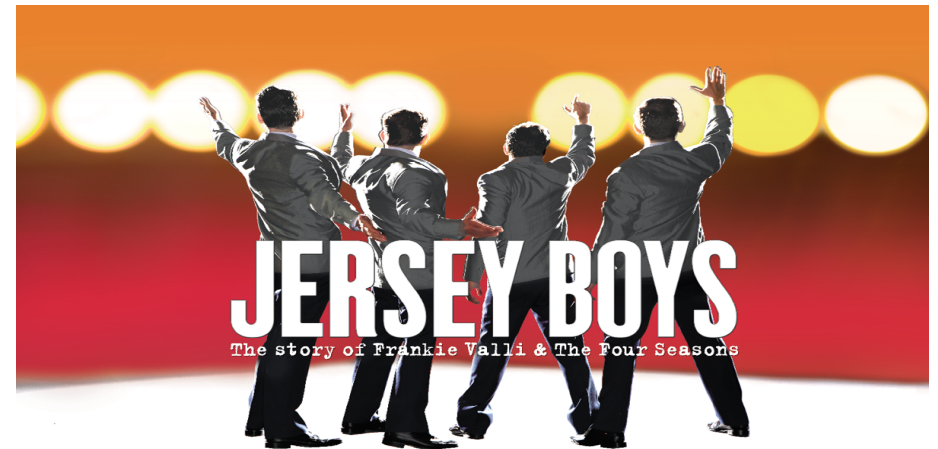
Thank-you for your ongoing and prayerful support of the mission and ministry of KEPC.

Offering Envelopes: If you are interested in having assigned envelopes for 2024 and are not on PAR, please reach out to Chris. For anyone that changed addresses in 2023, please let Chris and Mark know so that we can check our records and update them as required.

EVENTS THIS WEEK: 07th – 14th April 2024

- Sunday:** 10:30 am –Worship Service
11:35 am – Mission & Outreach Team meeting in the McLean Fireside Room
- Monday:** 1 pm – Music Therapy
6:30 – 10 pm – GRIPS in the Gray Hall
- Tuesday:** 9:30 am – Bible Study via Zoom
11:45 – 1:30 Music Therapy
6:30 pm – Sparks
- Wednesday:** 7 – 9 pm – Scouts in Gray Hall
- Thursday:** 9 am – Sonshine Corner in the Gray Hall
- Friday:** 10:30 am – 12:30 pm Music Therapy
- Sunday:** 10:30 am –Worship Service; Sunday School; Coffee & Conversation downstairs.

KEPC Seniors’ Group:



Through the Drayton Entertainment Group, Showing at the Hamilton Family Theatre in Cambridge, We are going as a group to see this spectacular musical on Wednesday 17th April 2024, at 2 pm.

Cleaning Bee

to be held Saturday 13th April from 9:00 until noon or until we get major chores done.

Please bring Vacuums, buckets, and cleaning clothes etc. and some muscle power to brighten up the Sanctuary for our Anniversary service on May 05th, and before we host our Presbytery of Waterloo- Wellington on May 14th.

Thanking you in advance for anyone can come to make our sanctuary a little brighter and a little fresher.

Marg Fannon and the Worship & Sacrament team.



VBS 2024: Hello everyone:

We are starting to prepare for our VBS at KEPC this summer and I just wanted to check in to see who would be interested and available in volunteering again this year.

Dates are July 8-12 9am-noon. The theme is SCUBA.

Please let me know so I can get an idea of interest/availability of volunteers, and we will start putting out announcements, etc to further our planning. Kindly, Sarah.

Prayer for peace:

Lord of love and compassion,

It is now six months since the Israel-Hamas war began and our hearts are broken.

Words fail to contain the groaning of our lament and our sense of helplessness.

As we witness the horrors and heartbreak in Israel and Palestine, we seek your comfort, strength, and hope.

God of truth, mercy, and peace,

God of life and God of reconciliation,

we mourn the suffering and murder of your people, we pray for an end to this senseless violence,

and we pray for a just peace for the people who have endured the burden of conflict for so long.

Console those who grieve, heal the injured, and comfort those who are alone, hungry, homeless, dying, and afraid.

We pray for the children,

for the mothers and fathers, the families.

Let wisdom settle on the governments and leaders of this world

so that justice is sought, reconciliation found, peace established,

and security provided for all.

Help us to do all we can

in our work for justice and peace.

In the name of Jesus, the one who said,

“Blessed are the peacemakers”. Amen