



LMH Beacon

Summer 2025 Edition

Summertime is always the best of what might be.

Charles Bowden

Summer is a season that brings warmth, light, and a sense of renewal. Longer days invite us to spend more time outdoors, soaking up the sunshine and enjoying the fresh air. At the Leamington Mennonite Home, we are embracing the season with outdoor activities, garden strolls, and plenty of opportunities to stay active and connected with one another.

This time of year reminds many of us of fond memories – family picnics, trips to the beach, or simply sitting on the porch with a cool drink in hand. Here, we are creating new summer memories together. Whether it's enjoying an ice cream social, listening to live music in the courtyard, or planting colorful flowers, there's a little something for everyone to enjoy.

As always, we encourage everyone to stay cool and hydrated during the warmer days. Light hats, comfortable clothing, and shady spots are our best friends in the summer months. We look forward to sharing more laughter, stories, and sunshine with each and every one of you this season!

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce a few special events planned for the coming weeks, including a Canada Day celebration, outdoor entertainment, bus trips, and more! Be sure to check the activity calendar and join us for the fun – there's no better time than summer to try something new and enjoy good company!



What Did We Do This Spring?



Spring is a season of fresh beginnings, when the world seems to come alive again. Flowers bloom, trees bud, and the air is filled with the gentle warmth of the sun. It's a wonderful time to enjoy nature's beauty, take a walk outdoors, and welcome the cheerful spirit of renewal and hope.



March

Shopping Trips
St. Patrick's Day
Timmies Tuesday
Point Pelee Drive Through



April

Colasanti's Trip
Easter Egg Decorating
Spring Crafts
Musical Guests
Walks in the Park



May

Cinco de Mayo
Mother's Day Tea
Ice Cream Socials
Zoo2You Visit

New Faces

RR

Harry & Mary Thiessen

Katie Froese

Martha Thiessen

Sally Dyck

Gerda Driedger

ITC Floor 1

Anita Thiessen

ITC Floor 2

Mary Knight

Dennis Diab

Mary Penner

Paul Driedger

Julia Rahn

Maril Reaume

ITC Floor 3

Vlasta Hudec

Departed Friends

Murray Loop

March 7th

Helen Cornies

March 9th

Peter Sawatzky

March 10th

Mary Knight

March 11th

Mary Dietz

March 26th

Brigitte Du Barry

April 2nd

Marg Bryon

April 7th

Carol VanRoie

April 16th

Sally Dyck

May 13th

Maria Wall

May 17th

Our current Activity Calendar is available on our website:

www.mennonitehome.ca/activity-calendars



Retirement Residence *Facility Updates*

At last year's Annual Meeting we presented a potential plan for building a new Retirement Residence where the Heritage Centre currently stands. After some deliberation, the RR Building Committee has decided to abandon this plan. Though this may seem like a setback, the committee continues to work diligently and is in the process of forming a more suitable alternative. The Home still plans to build an up-to-date, purpose-built Retirement Residence designed to better serve our community's needs.

A thoughtful transition plan will be in place for residents, which will be communicated to residents and their families at the appropriate time. There is ample time before this transition occurs, as we are hopeful of opening the doors to a new retirement facility in the next 5 years. This special project continues to ignite our vision of putting residents first – through faith-based commitment, compassion, and community.

As we embark on this journey, we invite our community to unite and support this initiative. We are looking for community connectors to play a vital role in this Capital Campaign, and while we are hopeful for successful fundraising efforts, we recognize securing a loan may also be necessary. We will be developing a communication plan for this project to engage you in our dedicated community on an ongoing basis as details unfold. Please visit our website to learn more or connect with us directly:

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Board Chair

helgaenns@gmail.com

226-757-4543

Jeff Konrad

Administrator

jeffkonrad@mennonitehome.ca

519-326-6109 ext.224

Alexandria Fischer-Janisse

Director of Development

& Community Engagement

alexandria@mennonitehome.ca

519-326-6109 ext.267

**Together, let's build a brighter future for our loved ones and our community!
We ask for your prayers as we embark on this new journey for LMH residents
and future generations who will benefit from this special dwelling place.**

Church Family News



LUMC

March 22nd - *Knotty Saturday*, a comforting day for MCC quilts/comforters

March 29th - *Southwestern Ontario Gleaners Annual General Meeting*

April 12th - *Euchre/Card Games Night*

April 12th - *Southwestern Ontario Gleaners Annual Fundraising Banquet and Auction*

April 27th - *Acts Trivia Challenge*

NLUMC

March 4th - *Pancake Tuesday*, pancake supper to celebrate the start of Lent

March 30th - *UMEI Student Trips Fundraising Pasta Lunch*

April 10th - *UMEI Rockway Choir Concert*

April 17th - *Maundy Thursday*, fellowship, snacks, and the tradition of foot washing

April 26th - *MCEC Virtual Annual Gathering*

April 27th - *Theology After-Party, "It's Complicated,"* an opportunity to discuss issues regarding the Promised Land and current conflict

April 30th - *UMEI Spring Concert*

May 4th - *UMEI Fish Fry Fundraiser*

May 23rd - *Community Building Event*, food, wine, music, and fellowship at Alexander Winery in Ruthven

Faith Mennonite Church

May 31st - *Hymn Sing*, proceeds to community meal programs

Windsor Mennonite Fellowship

April 26th - *No Other Land Screening*, Oscar-winning documentary to educate people about life for Palestinians in the West Bank under occupation.

Meadow Brook Church

April 5th - *The Bridge Youth Resource Centre Giving Spoon Soup Fundraiser*

Summer 2025



Father's Day
Sunday, June 15th



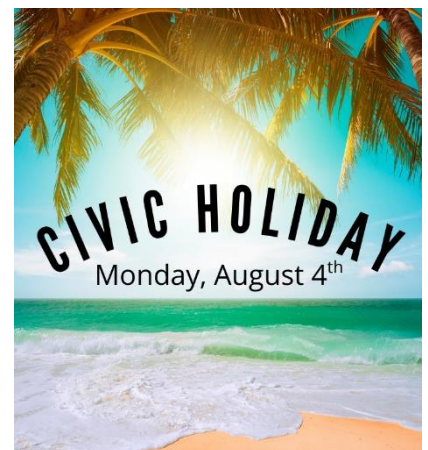
National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 21



*First Day of
Summer*
Saturday, June 21st



**CANADA
DAY**
Tuesday,
July 1st



CIVIC HOLIDAY
Monday, August 4th

Our next newsletter will be available at the
beginning of September

A word from our Chaplain

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

According to the church year, the good news of Christ's resurrection does not fade when store merchandise transitions from the soft pastels of Easter to the bright, primary colours of summer. It actually continues for a period of fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. The Easter season aligns with spring, a season that stirs new hope within us. We never grow tired of watching the miracle of trees that were dormant during the winter explode with fragrant blossoms overnight. The music of songbirds can be heard again and the earth seems to sigh with relief at the first spring rains. In this season of rebirth, our minds are also drawn to the message of hope in the words of Jesus:

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

Jesus spoke these words to Martha, whose brother Lazarus had just died. Grief was new and raw. She was grappling with the harsh reality of her loss. Into that darkness, Jesus entered, offering not only words of comfort but himself. *"I am the resurrection and the life."*

Those same words speak to us today. No matter our age, no matter our health, no matter what we've lost or what we're still waiting for—Jesus offers the hope of eternal life for all those who believe in him. And that new life begins now, not just on the day we die. It begins the moment we place our trust in Him. Jesus is saying to Martha that there is a kind of life that death has no power over—a life rooted in him. And that life can flourish now no matter the circumstances.

Jesus leaves Martha with a question that we are all confronted with at some point: "Do you believe this?" This spring, may we not only see signs of life in the world around us but also sense the stirring of life within. Because Christ is risen, so shall we be. And even now, we are.

In Christ's peace,

Anna-Lisa Salo
Chaplain





Meet your Neighbors

Long Term Care

Susie Janzen



Susie was born on September 27, 1930 in a part of Russia that later became the Ukraine. She was born fifth out of seven siblings. In 1943 her family was forced to flee to West Prussia, and in 1944 they were sent to Poland by the Germans. The family emigrated to Canada in 1948. In 1989 Susie travelled to Europe with her siblings to be reunited with her brother who had been released after being a prisoner of war. Susie never married or had any children, and lived with her parents in Leamington until they passed away. She worked at a few different farms, and in 1953 she began working at the Leamington hospital as a Nurses Aide, eventually upgrading her education and working as an OR Technician. Later on she worked as a PSW at the Franklin nursing home but injured her back and needed to retire. She volunteered at both the Horticultural Society and the Parkinson's Society. Susie loves spending time outside and used to be an avid gardner. She also enjoyed baking and made a wonderful Napoleon Tort. She loved singing in the choir at church, and her faith has always been important to her.

Retirement Residence

Ken was born on October 30, 1941 in Leamington. He played both hockey and baseball as a boy and enjoyed skating. As an adult he moved to Nova Scotia, where he served in the Navy and met his first wife - they had two children together. Ken spent 13 years in the Navy and Airforce, serving in Navigation and Radar Systems Operation. He travelled a great deal due to his career. He moved back to Leamington and married his second wife in 1979 - they had known each other as children and reconnected as adults and were married for almost 40 years when she passed away. Ken enjoys watching sports, especially hockey and baseball. He also enjoys spending time outdoors observing nature and finds colouring to be relaxing.

Ken Kit



Meet our Staff

Lisa Thiessen



Lisa has been part of the LMH staff since June 1992 as part of our Laundry team. She has been happily married for 34 years and is the proud mother of two daughters and grandmother to four grandchildren. Her family also includes a brown tabby cat named Kevin, who brings plenty of personality to the household. Originally from Windsor, she moved to Kingsville in 1990. Before joining the Home, she worked at Everfresh, where she packed glass-bottled juice off the production line.

She genuinely enjoys doing laundry and loves the opportunity to mingle with residents. In her free time, she enjoys biking, swimming, and relaxing in the hot tub with a cold beer.

Cheryl has been a nurse at our Home staff since April 1995 when she was 22 years old. For Cheryl, the Home has become much more than a workplace – it has become a second home. A significant milestone in her career came in 2005, when LMH transitioned to its new building and Dr. Holloway established his outpatient clinic. She was given the opportunity to work closely with him as his nurse, and under his mentorship she evolved into her current role as Director of Nursing and Personal Care. Cheryl was born in Simcoe, Ontario and spent her early years in Port Dover before moving to Wheatley in 1980, where her father worked as a commercial fisherman. She remained there until 1998, when she got married and settled in Leamington. Her first job at age 14 was at Cartwright Valu-Mart in Wheatley, under the supervision of Lydia Bateman, who now resides in the Retirement Residence. She also spent a summer working in the Can Fill department at Heinz. Beyond her professional life, she is married to her husband, Aaron, and they have a son, Liam. An avid runner, she enjoys daily runs with her dog, Kai, and shares her home with two cats, Baxter and Sophie. In addition to running, she cherishes vacationing with her family, finding balance and joy in both her work and personal life.

Cheryl Alice



Resident & Family Councils

All residents are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in the monthly **Resident Council** Meetings. Meetings, led by the Resident Chair, focus on resident preferences for activities, events, and programming. Resident services such as meals, personal care, housekeeping, and laundry are discussed and evaluated.

A **Family Council** consisting of resident family members, meets every three months to review resident services, care, and activities. The Family Council assists in the identification of needs, preferences, and projects for the Long Term Care Home.

The Leamington Mennonite Home has a Family Council consisting of resident family members who work to improve the lives of residents. The Council:

- Allows families to give each other ongoing mutual support and encouragement
- Handles group concerns
- Provides the opportunity to become knowledgeable about the Home's operations
- Advises or recommends what residents would like to see done to improve care or quality of life in the Home



Jeff Blake
LTC Resident Council Chair



Anita Janzen
RR Resident Council Chair



Brenda Fischer
Family Council Chair

Family Council Members

Sandy Brown	Ruth Driedger	Brenda Fischer
Jennifer Fittler	Delores Klassen	Debbie Simpson
Louise Tiessen	Ruth Warkentin	Louise Wiens



**A REMINDER FOR
RESIDENTS AND
THEIR FAMILIES:**

**IF YOU ARE BRINGING A BIRTHDAY CAKE TO
BE SERVED ON YOUR/YOUR LOVED ONE'S
BIRTHDAY,**

**PLEASE NOTIFY OUR RECEPTIONIST
(MELISSAGEBRAEL@MENNONITEHOME.CA)**

**OR OUR DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL &
RECREATION SERVICES
(JUDY@MENNONITEHOME.CA)**

BY 2PM THE DAY PRIOR

**THIS GIVES OUR DIETARY STAFF ENOUGH TIME TO
PLAN ACCORDINGLY AND ENSURES THAT THE
CAKE WILL BE SERVED AT YOUR DESIRED TIME**

**CAKES MUST BE DELIVERED BY
9AM TO BE SERVED WITH LUNCH AND
11AM TO BE SERVED WITH SUPPER**





BRINGING A PET INTO OUR HOME?

The Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care requires all pets coming into our Home to be registered with our Front Office.

Pet owners must provide proof of the pet's vaccination on an annual basis for Infection Prevention & Control purposes.

Unregistered and/or unvaccinated pets will not be permitted in our building.

Pet owners will be provided with our Pet Visitation Policy upon registration.





books
friends
humid
sport
travel

camping
games
pool
sprinkler
watermelon

