

# AMISH MENNONITE CHURCHES OF ONTARIO

## Record of Churches and Ordinations 1903-2020

*Including churches which identified as Amish Mennonites since 1903 to the present*

*Compiled by Bruce W. Jantzi, December 2020*

### A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1822, Christian Nafziger, an Amish Mennonite from Bavaria (Germany), came to Upper Canada (Ontario) searching for a place to settle for his family and his co-religionists. Sir Peregrine Maitland, Governor of Upper Canada in York (Toronto), agreed to sell a block of land of the crown lands of Wilmot Township (in Waterloo County) to all the German settlers Nafziger could bring. In 1824, Bishop John Stoltzfus of Pennsylvania officiated in a triple ordination service for Joseph Goldschmidt, John Brenneman, and Jacob Kropf, thus establishing the first\* Amish Mennonite congregation in Canada.

In the next 50 years, four more Amish Mennonite congregations were established in Southern Ontario. The five congregations are named according to their townships:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Wilmot congregation – 1824      | <i>Today: Steinman's Mennonite Church and<br/>St. Agatha Mennonite Church</i>   |
| 2. East Zorra congregation – 1837  | <i>Today: East Zorra Mennonite Church</i>   |
| 3. Hay (Blake) congregation – 1849 | <i>First called Blake Amish Mennonite church; the members transferred to Zurich Mennonite Church in 1981 when the Blake congregation dissolved. In 1992 the Blake Church House was purchased by the Lakeview Conservative Mennonite Church.</i> |
| 4. Wellesley Congregation – 1859   | <i>Today: Maple View Mennonite Church</i>   |
| 5. Mornington congregation – 1874  | <i>Today: Poole Mennonite Church</i>  |

All five of these Amish Mennonite congregations built a meeting house in the 1880s.

In both the Wellesley and Mornington congregations in this decade, there were congregants who continued to hold their worship services in their houses, and these became the Old Order Amish group. They began meeting separately in 1886, and the division was clinched in 1891 when Christian L. Kuepfer of this group was ordained bishop by bishops from the Old Order Amish in Holmes County, Ohio.

The five original Amish Mennonite congregations continued to grow and form daughter churches. In 1956, these churches formed an official conference called the Ontario Amish Mennonite Conference Inc. In the 1960s, the term 'Amish' was dropped, because the congregations in the conference were no longer practicing the distinctive 'Amish' practices of the founding fathers, and the name of the conference was changed to Western Ontario Mennonite Conference.

Moreover, in the first decades of the 1900s, two more groups withdrew from two of the original Amish Mennonite congregations, again from the Wellesley (Maple View) and Mornington (Poole North) congregations. In an effort to find a middle road between the progressive Amish Mennonites and the Old Order Amish of Ontario, the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church (Poole West), also known as the Nafziger congregation, was organized in 1903, and in 1911, the Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Church, known as the Lichti Church, was organized. It is with these two Amish Mennonite Churches, Mornington in 1903, and Cedar Grove in 1911, that we begin the following Record of Churches and Ordinations of the Amish Mennonite Churches of Ontario, 1903-2020.

\* *Note: the distinction of the first Amish Mennonite Church in Canada in 1824 in Wilmot Township is claimed here, despite the fact that Amish Mennonite families by the name of Troyer, Christner, and Holly, had settled in York and Weston (Toronto) along the Humber River in the late 1700s and very early 1800s. These people did not organize an Amish or Amish Mennonite church, and those who did not return to Amish congregations in the United States, joined other Mennonite/Anabaptist Churches or were assimilated into general society. There were also Amish Mennonite settlers in the late 1700s in the areas of Port Colborne and Port Rowan on Lake Erie, but there has been no evidence that they organized an Amish or Amish Mennonite congregation.*

## **MORNINGTON AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH** (also called Nafziger's Church in earlier days)

Milverton, Ontario (also identified as Poole West) (Perth County)

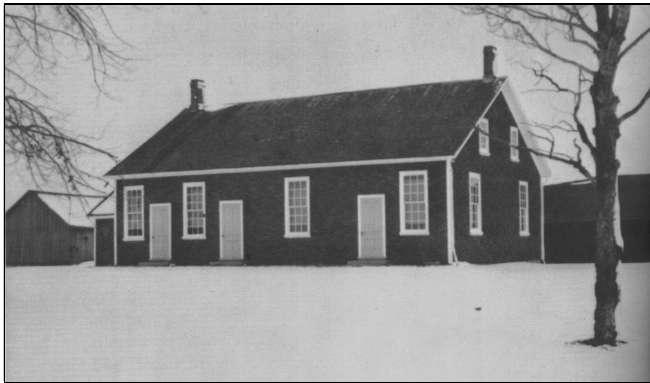
Established in 1903 as a division from the original Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation which held their worship services in the meeting house north of Poole, which today is Poole Mennonite Church.

The original Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation was organized in 1874.

Joseph Gerber (1838-1910) was ordained as its first bishop in 1875. In 1865, Joseph was ordained a minister in the Wellesley Amish Mennonite congregation, which at that time included the members who were moving into Mornington Township. Joseph Gerber was born in 1838 in Lewis County, New York. His father, John Gerber, had emigrated from France in 1834, and moved to Ontario in 1839 when Joseph was one year old. Father John carved out his farm from the virgin forest on Settlement Road east of Wellesley. After Joseph Gerber married in 1861, he moved to the next frontier, that of neighbouring Mornington Township, just east of Milverton. Bishop Joseph Gerber moved to Nobles County, Minnesota in 1893.

In 1886, a group withdrew from the original Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation and formed the Old Order Amish congregation. They continued to hold their worship services in their homes.

The Mornington (Nafziger) meeting house was built in 1904



Membership: in 1925: 140; in 1965: 143; in 1975: 54; in 2000: 27

### The Ordained Leaders of Mornington Amish Mennonite Church:

Nicholas Nafziger (1866-1944)

Ordained minister in 1891; ordained bishop in 1896 at Poole North congregation.  
In 1903, Mornington Amish Mennonite Church (Poole West) was established under his leadership.

Peter Spenler (1858-1935) ordained minister in 1891 at the Poole North congregation.  
He became part of the Mornington group (Poole West) in 1903.

John Albrecht (1861-1944) Ordained deacon in 1891 at the Poole North congregation.  
He became part of the Mornington group (Poole West) in 1903.  
Ordained minister in 1911.

John Nafziger (1856-1910) Ordained minister in 1892 at the Poole North congregation.  
He became part of the Mornington group (Poole West) in 1903.

*Note: One may wonder why the Mornington Amish Mennonite congregation (Poole North) had four ordinations in the years 1891 and 1892. The decades of the 1880s, 1890s, and the first decade of the 1900s, were unsettled times for the congregation as the congregants chose different directions for church life and practice. In 1886, three of the leaders, Ministers Christian L. Kuepfer and Andrew Kuepfer and Deacon Solomon Kuepfer (all three were first ordained in 1879), left the congregation to establish the Old Order Amish congregation when a meeting house was built at Poole North. This left three ordained leaders in Poole North, including Bishop Joseph Gerber, who himself moved to Nobles County, Minnesota in 1893. Ten years later in 1903, the four ordained brothers listed above*

*(all four were first ordained in 1891/92) left the Poole North congregation to establish the Poole West congregation.*

Jacob L. Wagler (1868-1939) ordained deacon in 1912

Joseph Nafziger (1868-1947) ordained deacon in 1912  
Transferred to the Wellesley Old Order Amish congregation in 1927

Valentine O. Gerber (1853-1928) Ordained in Holt County Nebraska;  
He also served in Nobles County, Minnesota, and Haldimand County (Canboro) and Huron County (Blake), Ontario. In the years around 1915- 1920, he served in Mornington, but the exact dates are lost in obscurity.

John Gerber (1863-1929)  
Ordained minister in Michigan; became part of this congregation in 1924

Solomon Jantzi (1869-1935)  
Ordained in Michigan; became part of this congregation in 1928

Samuel Nafziger (1895-1976) ordained minister in 1933

Moses Nafziger (1894-1970)  
Ordained minister January 29, 1933; ordained bishop in November 10, 1940

Jonas Jantzi (1891-1964) ordained deacon in 1938

Joseph J. Steckley (1899-1966) ordained minister in 1938

Lorne Schmidt (1918-1988) ordained minister on May 19, 1968

Aaron N. Jantzi (1927-1992) ordained deacon on May 19, 1968

Leonard N. Jantzi (1929-2009) ordained minister on May 17, 1970  
He assisted in establishing Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church in 1974.

Melvin Roes (b. 1944) ordained minister on May 17, 1970  
Ordained bishop on Oct. 29, 1972  
Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church was established under his leadership in 1974

Aaron J. Jantzi (b. 1939) ordained minister on October 12, 1975  
Ordained bishop on April 18, 1977  
Transferred to Living Hope Conservative Mennonite Church, Kurtzville, Ontario  
in July 2020 (semi-retired bishop)

Vernon Jantzi (b. 1952) ordained minister Nov. 30, 1981  
To Pine Haven Amish Mennonite Church, Warren, Ontario (North Bay) in 1989.

Peter Jantzi (b. 1958) ordained minister in July 16, 1989  
Transferred to Donegal Mennonite Church (Midwest Menn. Fellowship) in 2018

Merlin Jantzi (b. 1961) – ordained deacon July 16, 1989  
Silenced from his ministry on September 24, 1995

Mornington Amish Mennonite Church decided by a church members' vote  
to close its doors on May 7, 2019.

The remaining members placed their membership in various Mennonite churches in the locality.  
The last ordained leaders serving the church were Bishop Aaron J. Jantzi and Minister Peter Jantzi.  
Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church purchased the meeting house, including the adjoining cemetery, in 2020.

## **PINE HAVEN AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH**

Warren, Ontario (Sudbury District)

Established out of Mornington Amish Mennonite Church in 1989

Membership - 2020: 26

Vernon Jantzi (b. 1952) ordained minister on Nov. 30, 1981

He led in the establishment of Pine Haven Amish Mennonite Church

in September of 1989

Michael Waltonbury - ordained minister on May 7, 2004

His membership was cancelled on June 1, 2008

Luke Wagler (b. 1981) ordained on October 11, 2009

Bishop oversight:

- 1) Aaron J. Jantzi of Mornington Amish Mennonite Church (initially)
- 2) Kenneth Kuepfer of Morningview Amish Mennonite Church (presently)  
(the former Steckley/Carter Church)

## **FAIRHAVEN AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH**

Milverton, Ontario (Poole) (Perth County)

Established in 1974 as a division from Mornington Amish Mennonite Church

Membership in 1975: 50; 1995: 109; 2017: 163; 2020: 130

The Fairhaven church house was built in 1975



Melvin Roes (b. 1944)

Ordained minister in May 17, 1970 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church.

Ordained bishop in Oct. 29, 1972 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church.

Led in the establishment of Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church in 1974.

Transferred to Anchor of Hope in 2019

Leonard Jantzi (1929-2009)

Ordained minister in May 17, 1970 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church.

He assisted in the establishing of Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church in 1974.

To Fellowship Haven Amish Mennonite Church in April 1991.

Emmanuel Jantzi (b. 1945) ordained deacon in May 16, 1976

To Fellowship Haven Amish Mennonite Church in April 1991

Joseph Kuepfer (b. 1952) ordained minister in Oct. 21, 1990

To Anchor of Hope Anabaptist Fellowship in Sept. 2017

Arnold Jantzi (b. 1966) ordained deacon on May, 30, 1993  
Ordained bishop on June 15, 2014

Ervin Horst (b. 1948) ordained deacon on June 6, 1976 and minister in 1979  
at Salem Mennonite Fellowship, Atwood, Ontario;  
served in Canaan Christian Fellowship (Athens, Ontario) from 1982-1989  
Joined the Fairhaven congregation in 1995/96 and served as minister  
Transferred to Grace Mennonite Church (New Hamburg, Ontario) in 2007.

Steven Adams (b. 1967) ordained minister on October 26, 2008.

Steven Gerber (b. 1974) ordained minister on October 26, 2008.

Daniel Byler (b. 1977) ordained deacon on Dec. 14, 2014

Richard Ropp (b. 1985) ordained deacon on Sept. 1, 2017 (for Anchor of Hope, Stratford)

Derek Jantzi (b. 1979) ordained minister on May 13, 2018

Perry Byler (b. 1987) ordained deacon on Nov. 15, 2020

Bradley Gerber (b. 1984) ordained minister on Dec. 13, 2020  
(for the outreach church in Perth, Ontario, Lanark County)

#### **FELLOWSHIP HAVEN AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH**

Monkton, Ontario (Perth County)

Established in April of 1991 as an outreach from Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church

Melvin Roes had bishop oversight, and then Lewis Tice, Grantsville, Maryland,  
until Laverne Ropp was ordained bishop in 2005.

Membership in 2020: 39

Leonard Jantzi (1929-2009)  
Ordained minister in May 17, 1970 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church.  
He assisted in the establishing of Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church in 1974.  
To Fellowship Haven Amish Mennonite Church in April of 1991.

Emmanuel Jantzi (b. 1945) ordained deacon in May 16, 1976 at Fairhaven A.M. Church.  
To Fellowship Haven Amish Mennonite Church in April of 1991

Laverne Ropp (1955-2020) ordained minister on September 10, 2000  
Ordained bishop on June 12, 2005  
To Kiev Evangelical Mennonite Church, Kiev, Ukraine, in June 30, 2019  
Died Aug. 3, 2020 in Kiev, Ukraine; buried at Mornington Amish Mennonite  
Cemetery (Poole West)

John Byler (b. 1976) ordained minister on May 25, 2003  
Ordained bishop on November 18, 2018

Matthew Ropp (b. 1981) ordained deacon on April 12, 2015

David Nathaniel Mast (b. 1990) ordained minister on December 1, 2019

## **ANCHOR OF HOPE ANABAPTIST FELLOWSHIP**

Stratford, Ontario (Perth County)

Established on September 17, 2017 as an outreach from Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church

Membership in 2020: 26

Joseph Kuepfer (b. 1952) ordained minister in Oct. 21, 1990 at Fairhaven A. M. Church  
To Anchor of Hope Anabaptist Fellowship in 2017

Richard Ropp (b. 1985) ordained deacon Sept. 1, 2017 at Fairhaven for Anchor of Hope

Melvin Roes (b. 1944)

Ordained minister in May 17, 1970 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church.

Ordained bishop in Oct. 29, 1972 in the Mornington Amish Mennonite Church.

Led in the establishment of Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church in 1974.

Transferred to Anchor of Hope in 2019

Installed as Bishop of Anchor of Hope on December 21, 2020

**NEW OUTREACH** planned: \_\_\_\_\_ (unnamed)

Perth, Ontario (Lanark County)

To be established as an outreach church of Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church in 2021

Steven Gerber (b. 1974) ordained minister October 26, 2008.  
at Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church

Daniel Byler (b. 1977)

ordained deacon Dec. 14, 2014 at Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church

Bradley Gerber (b. 1984)

ordained minister Dec. 13, 2020 by Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church

(for the outreach in Perth, Ontario, Lanark County)

**CEDAR GROVE AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH** (also called the Lichti Church in earlier days)

Wellesley, Ontario (Waterloo Region)

Established in 1911 as a division from the original Wellesley Amish Mennonite Church,  
which today is called the Maple View Mennonite Church.



The Cedar Grove meeting house was built in 1912.

Membership in 1965: 200; in 1995: 150; 2020: 84

The original Wellesley Amish Mennonite congregation was organized in 1859 with John Jantzi as the first bishop. John Jantzi (1806-1881) emigrated from Lorraine, France in 1834, and settled in Lewis County, New York where he was ordained minister. He moved to Canada in 1839 and transformed the virgin forests into a farm on Settlement Road (east of Wellesley) where Peter Petrovic lives today. In Ontario, he first worshipped with the Wilmot Amish Mennonite congregation. John Jantzi was ordained bishop in 1859 when the Wellesley congregation was organized.

In 1886, when the original Wellesley Amish Mennonite congregation decided to build a meeting house (today Maple View), Deacon Joseph G. Jantzi led a portion of the congregation to organize as the Old Order Amish congregation. They continued holding their worship services in their houses.

### The Ordained Leaders of Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Church:

Jacob F. Lichti (1866-1944)

Ordained deacon in in 1891 at the Maple View congregation

Ordained minister in 1898; ordained bishop in 1901

He led in the establishment of the Cedar Grove congregation in 1911

John Gascho (1864-1949)

Ordained deacon in in 1898 at the Maple View congregation

He became part of the Cedar Grove congregation in 1911

Ordained minister in 1913

David Wagler (1878-1970) ordained deacon in 1913

John R. Gerber (1872-1948) ordained minister on Nov. 12, 1916

Joseph R. Gerber (1875-1958) ordained deacon on Nov. 12, 1916

Samuel Lichti (1902-1968) son of Bishop Jacob F. Lichti

Ordained minister in Ohio; returned to Ontario in 1939 and served at Cedar Grove.

He died in Phoenix, Arizona. In his later years he became a member of the Bethel Conservative Mennonite Church in Millbank, Ontario, and is buried in their cemetery.

Amos Wagler (1899-1945) ordained minister on June 15, 1941

Samuel Roth (1895-1974) ordained minister on November 26, 1945

Ordained bishop in May 11, 1953

Noah W. Gerber (1906-1978) ordained minister on November 26, 1945

John L. Zehr (1919-2004) ordained deacon on January 20, 1963

Melvin Jantzi (1933-2003) ordained minister in January 20, 1963

To Plain Christian Fellowship, Corina, Maine in 1990

Melvin died in Maine on August 10, 2003. He was buried at

Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Cemetery

Arthur Gerber (1939-2018) ordained minister on July 15, 1973

Ordained bishop on December 9, 1974

Mahlon Gerber (1938-2008) ordained minister on April 22, 1979

Laverne Zehr (b. 1951) ordained deacon on September 27, 1987

Larry Ropp (b. 1963) ordained minister on April, 7, 1997  
Larry Ropp relocated to the Whitechurch area in the fall of 1997.  
Whitechurch Amish Mennonite Church was organized in 1999.

L. Paul Jantzi (b. 1963) ordained minister on April 6, 2002

Timothy Gerber (b. 1974) ordained minister on April 3, 2005

John Gerber (b. 1979) ordained minister on October 27, 2013  
Ordained bishop on April 19, 2015

Daniel Gerber (b. 1987) ordained deacon on September 30, 2018

### **WHITECHURCH AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH**

Whitechurch, Ontario (near Wingham) (Bruce County)  
Established as an outreach in 1999 from Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Church  
Membership in 2020: 30

Larry Ropp (b. 1963) ordained minister in April, 7, 1997  
at Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Church  
Larry Ropp moved to the Whitechurch area in the fall of 1997.  
Whitechurch Amish Mennonite Church was organized in 1999.  
Ordained bishop on Oct. 2, 2016

Jeffrey Kuepfer (b. 1978) ordained deacon on September 30, 2007

Charles Jantzi (b. 1987) – ordained minister Sept. 28, 2014  
Discharged of his ordination on Apr. 24, 2018  
Transferred to Maranatha Mennonite Church, Drayton, Ontario

Joshua Lebold (b. 1991) ordained minister on Dec. 20, 2020

### **MORNINGVIEW AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH**

Newton, Ontario (Perth County)

The Morningview Amish Mennonite congregation originally was part of the Old Order Amish group. In 1945 there was a division within the Amish congregations located in Wellesley and Mornington Townships and a new group with 56 members was formed. It was called the Henry Albrecht District. The ministry of the new group consisted of Bishop Henry Albrecht, Minister Joseph Kuepfer and Minister Daniel Steckly. When Samuel Steckly was ordained bishop in May 1947, the congregation became known as the Steckly District. In 1964, William Carter was ordained as bishop, after which time people referred to this group as the Carter District, or Carter Church. During the late 1950s and early 1960s the congregation agreed to accommodate the use of power machinery, electricity, cars, trucks and telephones. In 1987, this group built a church house, and at that time the congregation took the name Morningview Amish Mennonite Church.

First service in the new building was held on September 13, 1987.  
Membership – 1975: 88; 2003: 98; 2014: 74; 2020: 48

Henry S. Albrecht (1870-1951) ordained as minister in 1924 in the Old Order Amish congregation  
Ordained as bishop in 1934 in the Old Order Amish congregation  
Led in the formation of the Henry Albrecht district in 1945 (Today is called Morningview)



Joseph Z. Kuepfer (1881-1967) ordained as deacon in 1911 in the Old Order Amish congregation  
Ordained as minister 1943 in the Old Order Amish congregation  
Helped to organize the Henry Albrecht district in 1945 (Today is called Morningview)

Daniel Steckly (1893-1958) ordained as minister in 1931 in the Old Order Amish congregation  
Helped to organize the Henry Albrecht district in 1945 (Today is called Morningview)

Samuel Steckly (1903-1972) ordained as minister in December 16, 1945  
Ordained as bishop in May 25, 1947

Menno J. Kuepfer (1910-1995) ordained as deacon on December 16, 1945

Aaron J. Kuepfer (1917-2008) ordained as a minister on April, 5, 1953

William Carter (1920-1998) ordained minister on May 17, 1959.  
Ordained as bishop on October 11, 1964

Kenneth Kuepfer (b. 1942) ordained minister on April 14, 1968  
Ordained bishop in June 29, 1997

Ivan Streicher (b. 1943) ordained as minister on April 22, 1984

Le Roy Carter (b. 1940) ordained as deacon on April 22, 1984

Murray Kuepfer (b. 1965) ordained as minister on Feb 8, 2004

Wayne Kuepfer (b. 1974) ordained as minister on May 3, 2009

Gary Kuepfer (b. 1971) ordained as deacon on May 3, 2009

## **SALEM MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP**

Atwood, Ontario (Perth County)

Organized in 1967/1969 by families from the Cedar Grove and Mornington congregations by Bishop Allen Slabaugh of Napanee, Indiana

Lorne Steckley (b. 1933) ordained minister in Oct. 26, 1969  
Ordained bishop on July 22, 1973  
Transferred to Countryside Mennonite Fellowship in 1989.  
Later Lorne also served in a number of other churches affiliated with the Midwest Mennonite Fellowship, including the Woodlawn and Parry Sound churches.

Mervin Kuepfer (1942-2016) ordained deacon in July 26, 1970  
Served in El Salvador under AMA, from 1976 to 1979 (approximately)  
Ordained minister in 1991  
Transferred to Zion Mennonite Fellowship (affiliation: Midwest Mennonite Fellowship)

Ervin Horst (b. 1948) ordained deacon on June 6, 1976 and minister in 1979  
at Salem Mennonite Fellowship, Atwood, Ontario.  
Ervin Horst was ordained as deacon in 1976 to replace Mervin Kuepfer who left to serve in El Salvador, and when Mervin returned to Ontario, the lot was used to determine which of the two deacons would be ordained as minister. By the lot Ervin was ordained as minister in 1979.  
Served as minister in Canaan Christian Fellowship (Athens, Ontario) from 1982 to 1989  
Joined the Fairhaven congregation in 1995/96, and served as minister  
Transferred to Grace Mennonite Church (New Hamburg, Ontario) in 2007

Steven Kuepfer (b. 1962) ordained deacon in 1991  
Transferred to Zion Mennonite Fellowship (affiliation: Midwest Mennonite Fellowship)  
Also serves as a prison chaplain in the Kenora area of Northern Ontario

Ken Brenneman of Bethel Conservative Mennonite Church in Millbank, Ontario had  
bishop oversight of the Salem congregation from 1989 to 2000

Salem Mennonite Fellowship affiliated with the Midwest Mennonite Fellowship in their later years.  
Because of dwindling membership, this church closed its doors on March 13, 2000, and the remaining  
members placed their membership in other local Mennonite Churches. The church building was  
subsequently sold to the Mount Zion Mennonite Church under Bishop John Drudge. The church house was  
removed in 2019 and the cemetery is used jointly by the Zion Mennonite Fellowship and Donegal  
Mennonite Fellowship Churches (affiliation: Midwest Mennonite Fellowship).

### **CANAAN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Athens, Ontario (Leeds–Grenville County)  
Established as an outreach of Salem Mennonite Church in 1982  
In 1988, there were 16 members.

Ervin Horst (b. 1948) ordained deacon on June 6, 1976 and minister in 1979  
at Salem Mennonite Fellowship, Atwood, Ontario.  
Served as minister in Canaan Christian Fellowship (Athens, Ontario) from 1982 to 1989  
Joined the Fairhaven congregation in 1995/96 and served as minister  
Transferred to Grace Mennonite Church (New Hamburg, Ontario) in 2007

Canaan Christian Fellowship dissolved in about 1989. The Horst family was the last of the congregation to  
move away.

**UKRAINIAN CHURCH PLANTING** – Fairhaven Amish Mennonite was heavily involved in the  
establishing of Mennonite Churches in Ukraine.

Melvin Roes (b. 1944) of Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church served as the first bishop in Kiev.  
Arthur Gerber (1939-2018) of Cedar Grove Amish Mennonite Church served as a bishop for the  
churches in Ukraine for more than a decade

Bruce W. Jantzi (b. 1958) commissioned pastor on July 18, 1993  
at Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church  
for Kiev Evangelical Mennonite Church, Kiev Ukraine  
To Shipintsi Evangelical Mennonite Church in February 10, 2007  
in Shipintsi, Chernovtsi Oblast, Ukraine.

Laverne Ropp (1955-2020) ordained minister on September 10, 2000  
at Fellowship Haven Amish Mennonite Church  
Ordained bishop on June 12, 2005 at Fellowship Haven Amish Mennonite Church  
To Kiev Evangelical Mennonite Church, Kiev, Ukraine, on June 30, 2019  
Died Aug. 3, 2020 in Kiev, Ukraine; buried at Mornington Amish Mennonite  
Cemetery (Poole West)

Since July 20, 1993 to 2020, four (Amish) Mennonite Churches have been established in Ukraine:  
Kiev (1993), Berezyanka (2004), Shipintsi (2006), Gorodetskoye (2011).