

Brussels Mennonite Fellowship

Location: 250 Princess St., Brussels, Ontario
Year built: 1875

BRUSSELS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP is composed of an older Brussels home, renovated for church use, and with recent additions. The land on which it sits, Village Lots 232 and 233, and Park Lot T, has seen different uses over the years. Thomas, Henry and James Smith built a planing and sawmill here in 1868. Thomas sold the mill to James Bennett. It is uncertain exactly when the house was built, but by 1875, Bennett was living in a house on this parcel of land. The property, with house, changed hands a number of times between 1887 and 1906 when it was sold to Peter Stewart for \$1,650. The Brussels Mennonite Fellowship acquired the property for \$30,000 from the Stewart Estate in 1981.

A bee was held on June 1, 1981 to renovate the house. With the help of Mennonites from all around the building was converted into a Church. The first worship service was held in what had been the dining room-kitchen; the bedrooms now served as Sunday School classrooms. The renovations were completed at a cost of about \$15,000 plus many hours of volunteer labour.



Brussels Mennonite Fellowship officially opened March 7, 1982.

The Chapel addition was made to the renovated house in the summer of 1984 with the help of many volunteers. A gymnasium, the pastor's study, and a new kitchen were added three years later, once again the work of dedicated volunteers. The upstairs Sunday School classrooms were also renovated at this time.

A youth group and a women's group were formed in 1983. A Meals On Wheels program was also started that same year.

All are welcome at weekly worship.
