

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”
Niagara United Mennonite Church

December 9, 2018

Second Advent

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community” expresses our desire to share our faith and love of Jesus Christ with all we meet. We welcome you and hope that your time with us will be enjoyable and enlightening. Families with children are invited to worship together with us in the service. For children under 3 years old or younger who are not able to sit through the church service, there is a nursery downstairs, or a glassed-in room behind the sanctuary where you may sit with your baby and still follow the service. We hope you feel at home with us and we would be happy to share ways that you can participate more fully with us.

Our Lighthouse program, which is a time of fellowship and learning for those aged 3 years to Grade 8 is held each Sunday during the Worship Service. The children will be called to the front for the Children’s Moment and then released after that. Parents may pick up their children in the Education Wing at the end of the service.

**Audio for our sermons is available online at
www.redbrickchurch.ca**

Filming Privacy Notice

Our services are sent via closed circuit Television to Radiant Care Pleasant Manor. This captures the stage & up to the front third of the pews in the picture that is transmitted. We encourage all ages to sit in the front pews of the sanctuary. Thanks for your support!

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Prelude	Praise and Worship
Advent Call to Worship & Candle Lighting	Metsa Family
Congregational Life	Erv Willms
Worship in Song	Praise and Worship
Children's Moment	Katrina Metsa
Offering	

Offering Focus – see financial section

Scripture Reading	Ed Janzen
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(Luke 1:68 – 79)

"Nothing is impossible with God"	John Tiessen
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Benediction	John Tiessen
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Today's Nursery Volunteers: Janice Janzen & Julia Bartel

Sunday, December 9, 2018

German Service — 9:50 a.m.

Andachtsleiter: Ramona Neufeld

Orgelspiel:

Lied: GB #44 "Freue dich, Welt"

Grusswort: Ramona Neufeld

Chorlied

Opfergaben

Lied: GB #41 "Wie soll ich dich empfangen" (V. 1,3 u. 4)

Chorlied

Schriftwort: Lukas 1:5-25

Botschaft: "Gott wirkt Neues! Wirken wir mit?" Pastor Renate Dau Klaassen

Lied: GB #48 "Warum willst du draussen stehen" (V. 1,3 u. 4)

Die nächste deutsche Andacht findet am 23.12. statt.

Life in the foyer: Lots of good things happen here -- come early! Meet & greet each other; read the bulletin boards; check your mail box; get info at the welcome desk; receive a bulletin.

When the ushers flash the lights at 10:45, you'll know the service is beginning -- let's worship!

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

Westview Christian Fellowship needs donations for the winter season. New socks, underwear, small blankets, scarves & gloves. Food donations for their pantry, gift items for their Christmas gift program. They also need volunteers for their Thursday evening program. Any and all donations of prayers, financial, food and clothing are needed. Help us fill the bins in the foyer.

Fathers & Kids Retreat at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp from January 18-20, 2019: This is an amazing weekend for any dad looking to spend quality time with his kids. Skating on the lake, building snowmen and igloos, snowshoeing through the woods, roasting smores over the campfire, playing board games and mini-sticks in the dining hall and watching Hockey Night in Canada on the big screen! Dad's enjoy some free-time on Saturday morning on the couches by the fire (newspapers and coffee will be in abundance) while our staff provide some outdoor programming with the kids. Sounds too good to be true we know, but that's the Fathers & Kids Retreat. NOTE: Father can be defined as any male adult role model or mentor. For more information (including pictures from prior years) and to register visit www.slmc.ca/retreats or call 519-422-3200

Women's Retreat at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp from February 8-10, 2019: A Wild Heart: living the paradox of love in our lives. This Women's only weekend is the perfect retreat for those looking to relax, reconnect and renew! Experience the beauty of creation. Be nourished by the relaxed pace and meaningful conversation. Play in the snow, breathe deeply in yoga, skate on the lake, treat yourself to a massage, snowshoe through the woods, stargaze on a horse drawn sleigh ride, savour exceptional food, or enjoy late night laughs in our brand new sauna. This time is all yours! Tanya Dyck Steinmann, pastor and spiritual director, offers times of worship, reflection and creative expression. For more information (including pictures from prior years) and to register visit www.slmc.ca/retreats or call 519-422-3200

JOYS AND CONCERNS:

Please continue to pray for: Margarethe Dyck, Audrey Epp, Susan Kaye, Hank Pauls, Irene Penner and David Steingart, as well as others who may need our prayers.

Hertha Neumann, the wife of Carl Neumann has been in the Hospital, recovering from a fall. She has now been transferred to Shaver. Please pray for Hertha and the family during this difficult time.

A special thank you to our custodians Jeff and Anita Friesen. We thank them for their service to the congregation and wish them God's blessing as the move to their new home in Long Sault.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES:

Lighthouse: We are working on the Advent and Christmas lessons for the next few weeks. Reminder there is no Lighthouse Dec. 25th or Dec 30th

Senior Youth Festival of Lights & Escape Room! We are going out with a bang in this last youth event of 2018! We're headed to Niagara Falls to see the Festival of Lights before heading to Qube Escape room. Choose your own adventure! \$20 or pay what you can. Meet at NUMC at 7 pm on Friday, December 14. Bring a friend and see you there!

LIBRARY UPDATE:

The library has a beautiful holiday display of Christmas fiction books, stories for young children, baking and decorating ideas and so much more. There is something for everyone!!! New releases are being put out on the shelves shortly. You can have a sneak peek at the new titles on the library section of the newly updated church website. If you have not been lately come and check out our very impressive library.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

Funeral and Visitation Helpers needed We are looking for individuals to help during visitations and funerals. Hosts, ushers, AV technicians, kitchen setup and serving. Visitations are usually from 2-4pm and then 6-8 pm. Funerals are usually at 11:00 a.m. Helpers are needed before and after the service. If you are interested, or need more information please contact the church office.

Church Archivist needed! We invite you to consider serving as an Archivist. The archivist collects and sorts material of historical interest to be stored in the church. Kindly contact Harold Neufeld, Chair of the Nominations Committee for more information regarding this role, or to volunteer. Kind thanks for your prayerful consideration.

Children's Moment Helper needed We are looking for one or two people to help during the service with the Children's moment starting in January. Most weeks it is singing of a song, maybe leading the children with actions to the song. There are times when telling of a story will be required. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Employment Opportunity: Niagara United Mennonite Church has an opening for a Custodian. If you are interested in applying for this position please forward resume via email to Peter Janzen, Church Council Chair janzen@cogeco.net. The deadline for applications is January 1, 2019. All applications are appreciated, but only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.



CANDLELIGHT SERVICES:

Christmas by Candlelight is only a week away! Mark your calendars for Saturday December 15th at Bethany and Sunday December 16th here at Niagara for a heartwarming celebration of the birth of our Saviour! Has God placed someone on your heart to invite? Neighbours, co-workers, family members, friends? All are welcome! The concerts start at 7:00pm and will be followed by refreshments in the gym. We look forward to celebrating together!

Calling all bakers! Please consider bringing cookies and/or squares to share with all who come to socialize after watching the Candlelight Service on Sunday, December 16th at the reception in the gym afterwards. Please bring these baked goods in the morning to the kitchen. Thank you for your generosity!

FINANCIALS:

Offering of December 9th: \$9,675.00			
Budget	\$8,025.00	Christian Witness	\$100.00
Mennonite Cntr Ukraine	\$50.00	Deacons Fund	\$100.00
MCC School Kits	\$55.00	MCC	\$1,145.00
Youth Group	\$200.00		

Offering Focus – Our weekly budget requirement is \$7,654. In addition to your budget commitment, this month we encourage your support of MCC. Donations can be directed to their overall operations (where most are needed), or you can specify specific projects such as food for the hungry, school or other relief kits, Generations at Risk (HIV/AIDS) or disaster relief. Please mark your envelope accordingly. Any church donations not allocated to a specific cause will be directed to our budget.

ADVENT DISPLAY:

Why so many candles and a blue candle? When discussions about the advent services took place in October, Pastor Waldo told us about an advent display that other churches he attended have used for the advent season. Upon researching this style of advent wreath, it was learned that the Advent wreath was "invented" by Johann Hinrich Wichern, who was a German pastor, and founded an orphanage in Hamburg in 1833. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, the children would ask him daily when Christmas would arrive. To make the waiting easier, Wichern came up with his own Christmas countdown, creating his first Advent wreath out of an old cartwheel and small candles. The blue Christ candle is because our counting down candles are white. Traditionally the Advent wreath, four candles on a wreath of evergreen, shaped in a perfect circle to symbolize the eternity of God. In some churches, four purple candles, one for each week in Advent, are used with one larger white candle in the middle as the Christ candle. Other churches prefer three purple or blue candles with one candle being rose or pink, to represent joy. We also this year have a blue series of bulletins for the Advent to Epiphany season. The blue candle is to continue that theme, and to give the Christ candle a distinct place on the advent display.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (Dec.10th – Dec. 16th)

Tuesday: **2:00 pm** Women in Service – Christmas afternoon tea
 7:00 pm Candlelight Choir Practice @ NUMC
Wednesday: **7:00 pm** 7/8 Girls Bible Study
 7:00 pm Spiritual Council Meeting
Thursday: **7:00 pm** Candlelight Practice @ Bethany
 8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting
Friday: **7:00 pm** Youth- Escape Room
Saturday: **7:00 pm** Candlelight @ Bethany

Sunday, December 16th – Third Advent

9:00 am Welcome Centre team meeting in the lounge
10:45 am Worship Service – Message by Waldo Pauls
 Special Music – Grace Notes
 Candle Lighter – Youth
7:00 pm Candlelight @ NUMC followed by refreshments in the gym

Next week's Nursery volunteers: Anna Kradko & Vanessa Kradko

For a complete listing of Church events,

Please see our online calendar on our website:

www.redbrickchurch.ca

Church Contacts:

Phone: (905) 468-3313

Web: <http://www.redbrickchurch.ca>

Office Administrator: Emily Fieguth office@redbrickchurch.ca

Interim Pastor: Waldo Pauls waldo@redbrickchurch.ca

Associate Pastor: German Worship: Renate Dau Klaassen renate@redbrickchurch.ca

Youth Education Director: Ellery Rauwerda ellery@redbrickchurch.ca

Worship & Engagement Coordinator: Rachael Peters rachael@redbrickchurch.ca

Office Hours:

The office is open weekdays from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Pastor Waldo Pauls is in the office Tuesday & Wednesday mornings.

Pastor Renate Dau Klaassen is in the office Thursday & Friday mornings.

Please contact the Pastors directly to book an appointment to see them.