

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

May 15th, 2016

~ Pentecost ~

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Gathering

Will Friesen

Call to Worship

Worship in Song

Erv Willms

“Send down your spirit, Lord”

Choir

“We gather together” HWB #17

“Spirit, like a river”

Choir

Congregational Life & Announcements

Erv Willms

Offering Focus- Pork on a Bun

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Will Friesen & Rachael Peters

Children’s Moment

Will Friesen & Rachael Peters

Testimonies & Baptisms

Candidates

Witnesses

Abe Boes

Helen Woelke & Isaac Woelke

Helena Bueckert

Helen Woelke & Isaac Woelke

Lena Wall

Wil Braun & Mary Braun

Pancho Wall

Wil Braun & Mary Braun

Congregational Response (on Powerpoint)

Proclamation

Scripture: Romans 10:8-13, pew Bible p. 1096

Jeff Friesen

“The Power of Confession”

Pastor Rudy Dirks

“Here we stand, Lord!”

Choir

Communion

Transition song into communion

Instrumental

Will Friesen

Sending

“Just a closer walk with thee” STJ #106

Today’s Nursery Helpers: Jay & Elysia Vis

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“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 5 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. If you feel a sense of belonging, you are most welcome to be with us. Talk to us about how you can participate.  
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JOYS & CONCERNS:

Congratulations to Lena & Pancho Wall on their wedding which took place yesterday, on May 14th. May God richly bless this union and be an ever-present source of guidance and strength for you as you embark upon this new chapter of your lives!

John and Trudy Thiessen would like to announce the birth of their granddaughter. Stephanie Audrey Thiessen Gall born on April 26, 2016. Parents are Lisa and Steve Gall. Proud great grandmother is Kathy Riemland.

Rudy and Sharon are grateful to God for the arrival of their fourth grandchild, another boy for Stephanie and Kevin Niessen. Everett Jack arrived on May 12.

Louise Dyck requests your prayer support for a quick recovery from a fall on Thursday evening. Praise the Lord there are no broken bones so she is at home, but healing time will be needed.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

We welcome today's baptismal candidates and pray for God's anointing on them as they share their testimonies with us and take part in the act of baptism. Thank-you to all of their families and loved ones for being here today to share in this special celebration for them with us as a church family.

Next Sunday we will share once again the sacrament of baptism with Julia Pentesco, who will share her testimony with us and be baptized. Please pray that she be filled with the Holy Spirit as she prepares for her special day.

This weekend our Junior Youth are away on Retreat! They have been participating in the MCEC Make a Different Retreat at Silver Lake. Please pray that they experience the courage and freedom to dive deeper into this year's theme "Open to God: Exploring Our Gifts" through hands-on activities, Biblical and educational information, laughter and camp activities. May God bless their time together and strengthen them in their fellowship with one another.

Book Sale! Please come to the Lounge before/after service today to check out our church library's book sale! Hardcover are \$1 each and softcovers are 50¢ each. The sale will continue on into this coming week, so if you did not get a chance to peruse the books this past week, you are invited once again to bargain shop the sale during office hours, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

We are excited to announce that we are once again partnering with Hannah House Maternity Home in its twelfth annual 'Change for Life' Baby Bottle Campaign. Hannah House Maternity Home exists as the only Christian non-profit maternity home in the Niagara Region, offering shelter and support to young adolescent mothers and their babies. Baby bottles are available at the Welcome Centre. We encourage you to find creative ways to collect spare change or cash to fill your bottles. Bottles must be returned to the church by Father's Day: June 19th. Online donations can be made at www.hannahhouse.ca. Donations from this year's 'Change for Life' Baby Bottle Campaign will be used to enable Hannah House to provide its young mothers and babies food, shelter, programming and educational opportunities as well as cover household expenses.

Peach Salsa - it's time to make Salsa! In preparation for the August Peach festival will making Peach Salsa and we need your help. Salsa preparation will be: **Fri May 20th (7pm - 10pm)** - preparation (chopping, measuring etc) AND **Sat May 21st (8am - 1pm)** –Salsa making--Any and all help will be greatly appreciated. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer.

Library news: New books have come in and are available for borrow. Check out the new selections that are displayed under the windowsill. The features for the month of May are: family, parenting, teen health, and powerful children. See the corresponding books on the centre table display!

Volunteer(s) Needed! Our custodians have vacation scheduled this summer and we are hoping to fill the vacancy with the help of volunteers from our congregation. If you are interested in offering some of your time (even a few hours) to help out around the church August 6-14, please kindly contact the church office for further details. Remuneration will be provided.

Offering of May 8th: \$6,810.00			
Budget	\$5,030.00	MCC General	\$385.00
Christian Witness	\$150.00	MCC Food	\$285.00
Friends of Menn Cntr Ukraine	\$160.00	Menn. Disaster Service	\$50.00
		Pork on a Bun	\$750.00
Attendance May 8th: Joint Worship Service – 237			

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (May 16th – May 22nd)

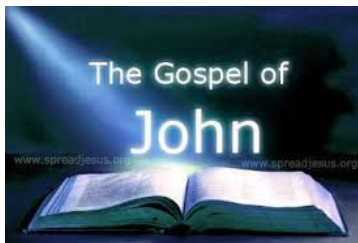
Tuesday: 7:00 pm Spiritual Council Meeting
Wednesday: 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 8:00 pm Choir Practice
Friday: 7:00 pm Peach Salsa Preparation
7:30 pm Youth
Saturday: 8:00 am Peach Salsa Production

Next Sunday, May 22nd

8:45 am Praise & Worship Practice
9:30 am Primary & Junior Singing
9:30 am German Choir Practice
10:00 am German Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
10:00 am Interactive Sermon
11:00 am Worship Service – Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks
Next week's Nursery Helpers: Sue Fast

For a complete listing of church events, please see our online calendar on our church website.

Sermon Series Part II on the Gospel of John:



“What Does it Look Like When Jesus is Really at the Core of Your Life?”

From January to Easter we explored the gospel of John as it traced Jesus' life through his ministry to the cross and resurrection. As John describes it in the opening verses, Jesus is the very presence of his Heavenly Father moving into our neighbourhood – the Incarnation of God.

From Easter to the end of June we will explore the teachings of Jesus in the gospel of John, where Jesus shows us what it looks like when WE welcome God to incarnate the presence of Christ in US. We do this not on our own, but by the work of Jesus in us by his Spirit.

Through images and careful instructions, Jesus shares with his disciples his dreams for what it looks like when we live with Jesus at the core of our lives.

You will get the most out of these messages if you read the chapter of John in the days leading up to that Sunday. May God bring Jesus' vision for us to a reality among us in this congregation.

April 3	“Unfinished Business”	John 21
April 10	“Feeling sheepish?”	John 10
April 17	“Directionally-challenged”	John 14:1-14
April 24	“Is it peace you are looking for?”	John 14:15-31
May 8	“A Beautiful Fragrance”	John 12:1-12

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:

Mennonite Disaster Service continues to monitor the Fort McMurray fire situation. We are currently waiting for the opportunity to go in to Fort McMurray to assess how we can be involved in the clean-up, repair, and rebuilding response. Donations can be made to “MDS” by cheque, online, or by phoning in with your credit card information. Our contact info is 6A – 1325 Markham Rd, Winnipeg, MB, R3T4J6, phone: 1-866 261-1274.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale – Calendar dates for New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale! Sale dates: our 50th Sale is **May 27th & 28th**. Martin Family Singers: concert **May 15th** at Steinmann's Mennonite Church. See our website for more details (nhmrs.com/news) or contact info@nhmrs.com.

New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Volunteers Needed The Sale needs setup (Thursday 1:00pm & Friday 8:00am) and clean up (Saturday 2:30pm) volunteers. Please contact Levi Kuepfer at 519-662-3598 or Ron Albrecht at rsalbrecht44@gmail.com if you are able to help.

IVEP Hosts Needed! Interested in travelling the world without leaving home? Open your home to an International Volunteer Exchange Program participant! Hosts are needed in St. Catharines for the 2016/2017 IVEP term. Go to mccanada.ca/ivep or contact Sheryl Bruggeling (sherylbruggeling@mcco.ca or 519-745-8458 x265) for more info.

Will you send a postcard or letter to the Youth living in the First Nations community of Attawapiskat? A word of encouragement, a brief letter of support or even a small gift, can make the difference in the life of a young person. Here is the address: Youth in Attawapiskat, PO Box 248, Attawapiskat, ON POL 1A0. Please go to mcco.ca/attawapiskat for info on MCC's work in this fly-in community.

Volunteer Opportunity with SMARTR: The Sexual Misconduct Abuse Resource Response Team offers services and support for Mennonite and BIC churches who find themselves in the midst of sexual misconduct or abuse and is searching for a volunteer administrator. More info available at mccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/volunteer/admin-manager-smarrt or by calling 519-745-8458 ext 254.

Earthquake in Ecuador: MCC is appealing for donations as we respond to the earthquake that struck the Pacific coast of Ecuador. MCC will work with partner churches from the IEME (Iglesia Evangélica Menonita Ecuatoriana) to shape our relief efforts. Please continue to keep the people of Ecuador in your prayers. To donate online, please go to mccanada.ca/learn/what/relief/ecuador-earthquake

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA:

MC Canada Assembly 2016 registration is now open! This year's theme is: God~Faith~People (Jeremiah 31:33). Keynote Speaker Safwat Marzouk, assistant professor of Old Testament at AMBS, will bring compelling insights to ancient texts. Stay tuned for more highlights in the coming weeks.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

Pleasant Manor will be holding a Memorial Service on Thursday, May 19th at 7:00 p.m in the Creekview Meeting Room for those in our community who have passed away. We invite all family and friends who wish to join us for a time of remembering and sharing. Refreshments will follow the service.

The Mennonite Children's Choir from Lancaster, Pennsylvania will be performing a concert at the St. Catharines United Mennonite Church on **Sunday, June 19 at 7 p.m.** The 78 singers are the ages of Grade 6 to Grade 12. They performed at the Mennonite World Conference as well as in Europe. *We would also ask if any of you can host some of the singers for Sunday night; it would be appreciated. If so, please call the church at [905 935-8017](tel:905-935-8017) by May 27th.* The poster for this event is in the main foyer. Thank-you.

Enrol in 'Reconciling our Future: Stories of Kanata and Canada' at the Canadian School of Peacebuilding, **June 20-24, 2016.** Learn how Indigenous peoples have shaped Canada politically, socially, culturally, and economically. This course is being taught by James Sinclair, with guest presenter John Ralston Saul. For more information, go to csop.cmu.ca or email csop@cmu.ca.

NUMC Services & Sermons are available online.

Individual Sermons or Sermon Series are available for purchase, formatted on CD or DVD. Please place your order through the church office.

Live Streaming Privacy Notice – Our church services are live streamed over the internet, capturing the stage and up to the front half of the church in the picture that is transmitted. We encourage all ages to sit towards the front of the church to showcase our lively and active congregation! Thanks for your support.