

"Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community"

Niagara United Mennonite Church

June 12th, 2016

~ Church Family Picnic ~

Schedule of Events:

11:00 am - Youth-led Worship Service

12:00 pm – Pot-luck Style Picnic Lunch

1:15 pm – Children's Games

Followed by Over 30/Under 30 Baseball Game

JOYS & CONCERNS:

Please pray for Darin Fast who will be undergoing treatment for stage 4 melanoma. He is the 20 year old son of Darin and Teri Fast, grandson of Werner and Marlene Fast and Anneliese Pankratz. We praise God for his trust in God and peace in this situation and we pray for his perfect healing.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

Sponsors Needed! Our NUMC Junior Youth ministry is an exciting place for students in grades 6 through 8 to be involved, share fellowship and experience the love of God. Over the past couple of years, we have seen this thriving ministry expand to include a large following of eager participants. At this time, we are looking for some new energy in the form of sponsors, and ask that you kindly prayerfully consider if this might your next calling in our church community. Please connect with George Pauls (Nominations Chair) for more information or to volunteer.

This summer the Music Committee would like to try something new in our worship services. We are planning on having a group of people / choir, lead the music worship every Sunday throughout the summer. We would love for you to join us at 9:00 in the choir room on Sunday mornings!! There will be a leader who has planned music, and is ready to practice with the group, and then will lead the music during the service. If there are enough people for a choir, we'll use the choir loft and maybe perform a choir piece or two, or if it's a smaller group, we'll simply stand at the front and lead congregational singing from there. We are also looking for any soloists, small group arrangements, instrumentalists that may want to perform one or 2 songs in any given service. If you know of anyone whose shoulder we should tap, or give a personal phone call to, please let us know and we would be delighted to chat with them. Again, join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the choir room, prepared to sing and praise our Lord. ALL ARE WELCOME!! - The Music Committee

The pantry is getting low on food. Please consider donating cereal, canned fruit and vegetables, coffee/tea, and packages of dried sauces like Sidekicks.

The third floor Sunday School area and the Board Room will both be undergoing floor maintenance this coming week. Please kindly note that these areas will be inaccessible Monday- Thursday and can be accessed once again on Friday.

Sponsorship & Settlement Committee report: After our congregation voted to privately sponsor a Syrian refugee family last fall, we were matched with a family of five (plus two brothers) and spent the winter preparing for their arrival. Then, for whatever reason, their file was transferred to the government-assisted refugee program, meaning that we had no contractual responsibility for them anymore. MCC offered to help us apply for another family, but at that time, Canada was already closing its doors and it was unlikely that another match would be available. Members of the Sponsorship & Settlement Committee decided to honour our prior commitment, which would now be more social than financial.

When the newcomers arrived in April, one of their first requests was for assistance in sponsoring their 19-year-old daughter and her husband, who had been left behind. While there was concern about overextending our volunteer capacity, one of our committee members began to do the paperwork. A small window of opportunity had opened up through the Syrian family reunification program. We would need to act quickly to take advantage of it.

Church Council last week agreed that submitting an application for the young couple in question fulfills the mandate given to us by the congregation last fall. We also have sufficient funds in our sponsorship account. For social support we are counting on the newcomer family and their friends. As before, our application to sponsor is going through MCC, although a final decision will be made by Canadian immigration officials. We have no idea about a time line in this case, but look forward to updates from the family and from MCC. Thank you to everyone for your interest and your prayers. --- Greta Wiens



Musical Thanks...

Next Sunday we will thank Kenton and Sheryl Janzen in our morning service for all their musical work and efforts in our church for the past 5 years. The service will include a blessing for them as they continue in their journey. Thank you Kenton and Sheryl, for your dedication to the choir and music program!!

We'll also be saying goodbye to Will at the end of June. He'll be moving back to Kansas to begin his career as a Chemistry Professor. Over the past few years, Will and Rachael have worked together on many duets. They will be playing an extended prelude of their favourite collaborations on Sunday June 19th. Please come early if you'd like to enjoy the music! Join us on June 26th when we will have a goodbye and blessing for Will.



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (June 13th – June 19th)

Wednesday: 7:30 pm Spring Membership Meeting

Thursday: 8:00 pm Choir Practice

Friday: 7:30 pm Youth

Next Sunday, June 19th – Father's Day

11:00 am Worship Service – Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks

Next Week's Nursery Helpers: Erica Ferguson & Kathe Wiens

Spring Membership Meeting **Wednesday, June 15 at 7:30 pm.**

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome & Opening Devotion
- 2) Acceptance of Agenda
- 3) Appointment of Tellers Committee
- 4) Review and acceptance of February & April Membership Meeting minutes
- 5) Financial Update
- 6) Intentional Interim Pastoral Candidate
- 7) Refugee Sponsorship Update
- 8) MC Canada Delegates – Affirmation
- 9) Other Business
- 10) Close

Offering of June 5th: \$10,880.25			
Budget	\$7,750.25	MCC General	\$1,145.00
Christian Witness	\$1,025.00	MCC Food	\$140.00
Library	\$100.00	MCC Syrian Refugee	\$500.00
		MDS	\$220.00
Attendance June 5th: German Worship Service- 81 ; Worship Service- 161			

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

With our June 16 AGM one week away we have experienced significantly low registrations and have made a decision to postpone the event to the fall with details to be announced as soon as we determine a new venue and time. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your continued support.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church invites us to participate in their 33rd Annual Strawberry Festival and Silent Auction that will be held on **Sat., June 18th from 9:00 am- 3:00 pm**. See poster for more info.

Greetings from Pleasant Manor! We are pleased to invite you to this year’s Farm Day! **June 18th – 10:00am-1:00pm**. This is the perfect day to bring the generations of your family together, rain or shine! We will be selling burgers and hotdogs, ice cream with local strawberries and corn on the cob to raise money to support resident programming. We hope you can come! P.S. Bring your lawn chairs!

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

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.

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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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