

"Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community"

Niagara United Mennonite Church

June 19th, 2016

~ Father's Day ~

Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Rachael Peters & Will Friesen

Call to Worship

John Tiessen

Worship in Song

Choir

"Shout for Joy"

"Blessed Assurance" HWB #332

"Hear me, O Lord"

Congregational Life & Announcements

John Tiessen

Recognition of Kenton & Sheryl Janzen

Alex Bradnam

Offering Focus- Christian Witness

"God of our Strength" HWB #36

Children's Moment

Jon Bradnam

Proclamation

"Prayers"

Choir

Scripture: John 17:1-11, pew Bible p. 1048

Udo Woelke

"Just Like Your Father"

Pastor Rudy Dirks

Sending

"The Lord bless you and keep you"

Choir

Today's nursery helpers: Erica Ferguson & Kathe Wiens

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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:

Henry Epp, son of Mary Epp, thanks everyone for their prayers as he continues to be treated for liver and stomach cancer. Although the cancer is not shrinking, it has not grown and he is stable. May God continue to give peace and healing.

Pray for Victor Wiens who is being treated for bile duct cancer. He has had surgery in Toronto and is doing quite well but there is a blood clot in his shunt. The family is very thankful that it has gone well and also value your prayers for his complete healing. May God's peace and love fill them all.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

The Upper Room Devotionals are here! Please check your mailboxes.

Seniors' Tea! All seniors are invited to attend the final Seniors' Tea with Rudy and Sharon Dirks. It will be held next **Sunday, June 26th at 4:00 pm** in our gym. Come for a wonderful time of shared fellowship with one another.

We are in the midst of a global refugee crisis. June 20th is designated by the United Nations as World Refugee Day-a day to commemorate the strength, courage & resilience of refugees around the world.

Church Picnic Lost & Found – Some items were left behind after the Church Family Picnic last weekend. If you left behind your casserole dish, please find it now in our church kitchen. Various other items, including lawn chairs, a child's hat and glasses were also left behind. Please retrieve these items from the coat rack area, just outside of the church kitchen. Also, please remember to check our regular lost and found area in the mailbox room periodically as many items collect there!

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, this thriving ministry has expanded to include a great following of eager participants. We are now looking for some new energy in the form of sponsors, and ask you kindly to prayerfully consider if this might your next calling in our church community. Connect with George Pauls (Nominations Chair) for more info or to volunteer.

The books that Pastor Rudy mentioned in his sermon a few weeks back are now available in our church library for borrow. Check out *Faith of the Outsider* and *Who Do You Say That I Am?*

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 church kitchen and basement level Sunday School area 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.

Save the Date! Sunday August 28th Farewell Service and Potluck for Rudy & Sharon Dirks. Please mark it on your calendars- we will be holding a special service of appreciation, blessing, and release for Rudy and Sharon on this morning. We are also excited to announce that following the service at 11:30 am we will have a potluck in the gym with a time to share stories of their time with us.

Blessing Book for Rudy & Sharon Beginning next Sunday June 26th we encourage everyone to contribute to a book of blessings for our pastors Rudy & Sharon. Write a memory, poem, blessing, prayer, or even tape a token or memento to a page in the book. Be creative, and let's leave Rudy & Sharon with a book filled with our blessings for them. You can find the blessing book at the Welcome Center on Sundays, and in the office through the week.



Musical Thanks...

Today we thank Kenton and Sheryl Janzen for all their musical work and efforts in our church for the past 5 years. 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. We will be thanking Will in our worship service next Sunday for all of his musical work and efforts in our church throughout his time with us. The service will include a blessing as he moves on in further pursuits.



STUDENTS & YOUTH:

Graduates & Post-Secondary Students – please kindly inform the church office if you or your son/daughter has or is graduating from high school or post-secondary studies this year. Please also notify April if you/they plan to attend/continue college or university in the fall and if so, which program you/they are enrolled in. Deadline to submit this information to the office: **August 22nd**. Thanks!

Youth Assembly 2016 canceled due to low numbers: While the big event has been cancelled, the youth of Saskatchewan are still planning to make their voices heard and will be gathering together over the Assembly dates for a canoe trip! Any youth who would like to be part of “#thecovenantcrew 2.0” should contact Hamm-Epp at youthminister@mcsask.ca.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (June 20th – June 26th)

Tuesday: 7:00 pm Spiritual Council Summer Meeting- offsite

Next Sunday, June 26th

9:30 am German Choir Practice

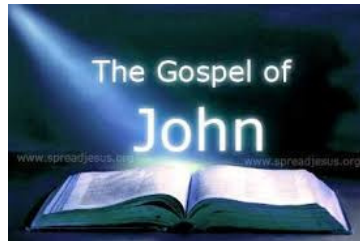
10:00 am German Worship Service

11:00 am Worship Service

4:00 pm Seniors’ Tea

Next week’s nursery helpers: Andrew & Kristina Nickel

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
May 22	“A Long Obedience in the Same Direction”	John 15:1-17
June 5	“Are you willing to ask?”	John 16:16-28
June 19	“Just Like Your Father”	John 17:1-11
June 26	“”	John 17

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale wishes to thank all the support we received in celebrating our 50th Sale. Your prayers, words of encouragement and help translated into another very successful event. At this writing we will be sending at least \$320,000.00 to MCC, but that is sure to increase as we work to finalize the numbers. Visit our website (nhmrs.com) or Facebook page for updates!

What are you reading this summer? Join together with some friends, your small group or even your whole church and read *Life's Great Dare*. A self-help book that is more than a self-help book. It's discovering that God isn't transforming us to be perfect; we are being transformed so that we can experience his love more perfectly. All proceeds go to the MCC Partner Machanaga Girls Home in Mozambique. More info available at lifesgreatdare.com/bookclub

Host Families Needed Do you have an interest in learning about a new culture and have a gift of extending hospitality? Majaga from Tanzania and Dunja from Serbia will be serving with IVEP (International Volunteer Exchange Program) in St. Catharines from Sept/2016 to June/2017. Majaga is 27 years old and enjoys singing, reading, and playing volleyball and exercising and Dunja is 21 years old and enjoys reading, sports and working with children. Majaga and Dunja need host families to walk alongside them on this journey! For more info, please visit our mcccanada.ca/ivep or email Sheryl Bruggeling at sherylbruggeling@mcco.ca to discuss possibilities.

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:

MDS Volunteer Opportunity in the Yukon – MDS Alberta is rebuilding a house destroyed by fire in Carmacks, YT. A maximum of 5 volunteers per week will be accepted from Jul. 4 till around mid-Aug. Donations for building materials are also accepted; indicate “Carmacks” with your donation. Round trip transportation costs covered for volunteers serving two or more consecutive weeks. Contact Evelyn Peters-Rojas (866-261-1274) MDS Volunteer & Project Coordinator or Glen Kauffman (780-712-9064), Carmacks Project Coordinator, for further details.

MDS Opportunity for Families (children of all ages welcome) - Sign up for a Family Project this summer at Camp Assiniboia (Manitoba) or Camp Silver Lake (Ontario). All ages are welcome! Families work together to build cabins and other camp structures, with age appropriate work wherever possible. Both projects run Jul. 17-Aug. 12, with groups serving for one week at a time. For more information or to sign up, call Evelyn at (866) 261-1274 or e-mail epetersrojas@mds.mennonite.net

Fort McMurray fires - The fire that ravaged Fort McMurray began on May 1, the outpouring of prayers, donations and interest in serving continues. While the focus of that fire has been the devastation it caused in the city, the fire is still burning 6 weeks later. MDS will make an initial assessment visit to Fort McMurray and the surrounding area on June 19-21. Rebuilding efforts will only begin after an extensive cleanup of hazardous ash within the city.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Silver Lake Mennonite Camp requires volunteers to help in the kitchen, garden or on maintenance (where needed most) this summer. If you are interested, please find additional information at slmc.ca/volunteers or call (519-422-1401) or email (fun@slmc.ca).

Vineland UM Church is celebrating its 80th Anniversary this summer on **July 31**. We are inviting anyone who is interested to join us. Our theme is “Celebrating Generations of Faith”. More information is available on the poster on our community bulletin board in the foyer.

Volunteer with purpose! Do you enjoy working with people? Are you physically fit? The Christian Benefit Thrift Shop has an urgent need for volunteers in our Donation Receiving department. If you prefer a quieter role in the warehouse, perhaps Housewares sorting would be a place for you to serve. Stop by the Shop (254 Grantham Ave., St. Catharines) for an application form or call 905.682.8944 to speak with Tim Albrecht, General Manager

United Mennonite Home forwards its sincere thanks to all those who participated and contributed to our annual Bazaar. Your contribution's helped us raise over \$7,700.00. Thank you for your support, donations and continued dedication.

No offering was collected last week at our Church Family Picnic.

Offering Focus – Our weekly budget requirement is \$8,260. In addition to your budget commitment, this month we encourage your support of Christian Witness. This supports projects like Nate & Taryn Dirks' ministry in Botswana through young adult bible studies, leadership training, prison ministry and their 2014 goal of sustainable farming efforts and youth development programs. Any church donations not allocated to a specific cause will be directed to our budget.

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.