

*“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”*

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016

**Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.**

**Gathering**

Marlene Borzychowski

**Call to Worship**

Joachim Dau

**Worship in Song**

Praise & Worship + Pick-up Choir

“10, 000 Reasons”

“I Will Stand in the Congregation” STS #113

“Days of Elijah”

**Congregational Life & Announcements**

Joachim Dau

MC Canada Delegate Report

Patricia Regier

Offering Focus- MCC

“King of Heaven”

**Proclamation**

“The River”

Scripture: John 6:53-61, pew Bible p. 1035

Rick Froese

“God Moving in Uncomfortable Lives”

Matt Riediger

**Sending**

“Faithful One”

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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:**

**John and Trudy Thiessen** would like to announce the birth of their grandson Eli John Benjamin Kendall born on July 12. Parents are Nathan and Vicki Kendall. Proud great grandmother is Kathy Riemland.

**Please join Erika Teichgraf** and her family to celebrate the milestone of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday (Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>). Open house to be held at Pleasant Manor Chapel on **Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> from 2-4:30 pm**. Refreshments and cake to be served.

**Pray for Jon Bradnam** who is undergoing chemotherapy at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto for a period of 60 days. You can follow his journey on his blog- <https://knowyournuts.wordpress.com>. May Jonathan, Michelle, their children and parents experience the healing peace of Christ during this time.

**WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**Today we welcome our own Matt Riediger**, who will provide the message for us this morning. He has recently returned from a missions trip through an organization called Power to Change, where he served as a leader. He disciplined the students on the missions trip, as well as modelling and doing ministry alongside them. They went on local campuses in North Africa to get to know the locals there, and shared life stories and experiences with them, which led to sharing their faith in Jesus with the locals. Thanks for sharing with us, Matt!

**Vacation Notice:** Steve Cox returns from his vacation on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Please note the office hour changes for this week:** The office will be closed tomorrow for the Civic Holiday, as well as on Friday. Office hours are extended from **Tuesday-Thursday** and will be **open 8:30am-4:00pm**. Please kindly ensure that all bulletin announcements and service info are submitted to the office by Wednesday afternoon if you want them to be included in the bulletin.

**The August church calendar** is available to pick up at the Welcome Centre.

**Intentional Interim Pastor** David Lewis has accepted our offer to become the Intentional Interim Lead Pastor of our church starting Sept. 1. We look forward to the next 18+ months during which time he will help our congregation discern who we are and where God is leading us.

**Floor Maintenance** is scheduled for the Virgil-side stairwell and Women's washroom for this coming week from Monday-Wednesday. Please enter the building through the NOTL-side glass doors and refrain from using these areas. Access resumes on Thursday. Thanks for your cooperation!

**Ladies Breakfast!** All ladies are invited to join together for breakfast and fellowship at Lawrenceville this coming **Thursday morning at 9:00 am**.

**Book Recall!** As Pastors Rudy & Sharon pack up their offices, they kindly ask that anyone who has borrowed any of their books throughout their ministry here to please kindly return them over these coming weeks. Thanks!

**Blessing Book for Rudy & Sharon** 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 today & in the office through the week.

**Save the Date! Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup>** Farewell Service & Potluck for Rudy & Sharon Dirks. Please mark it on your calendars- we'll be holding a special service of appreciation, blessing & release for Rudy & 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.

**Summer at Niagara United Mennonite Church:** Please see the colourful insert for a full weekly line up of what we have going on here on Sunday mornings through the summer. As more information becomes available, this insert will be updated. Please see the sermon series insert for the descriptions of the two sermon series that will be preached in July and August and the biographies on the guest speakers that we will welcome for their expertise in these areas.

## **STUDENTS & YOUTH:**

**KIDS CONTEST (AGES 12 AND UNDER)** The Junior Sunday School is asking for a change in name. Sunday School is going to take on a new and fresh look in September and we would like to challenge the kids of our church to come up with a fresh and new name for it. There are contest ballots at the Welcome Centre. Give your name to the Welcome Centre volunteers and receive your ballot. Do not write your name on the ballot- the committee of judges will make their winning selection anonymously. Put your suggestion on the ballot and return it to the Welcome Centre. You may submit as many unique entries as you like. **The prize is a \$50 McDonald's gift certificate!** Please do not include the word 'school' as a part of your suggestion. For any questions, please e-mail Linda. **Contest ends TODAY, Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

**Peach Festival - Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup>** - The Missions and Service Committee is asking for volunteers to assist at the Peach Festival. In addition to it being lots of fun, the proceeds from the sale fund a number of NUMC's charitable projects. The sign-up sheet is at the Welcome centre.

**Sponsors Needed!** Our NUMC Junior Youth ministry is an exciting place for students in grades 6-8 to be involved, share fellowship & experience the love of God. We are looking for some new energy in the form of sponsors, & 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.

**Students in Grades 7, 8 and up!!!** – there are positions coming up in the new ministry of the Sunday School for you! The pay is not great...in fact, there is no pay, but here is your chance to spend time with younger kids, actually be part of the teaching team instead of being the student, and really feeling good at the end of the day because you were part of working for God! If you are even thinking about it give me a call and we will talk. Linda Pankratz.

**The Sunday School Department is seeking someone** who loves singing to lead the tiny tots to Grade 6 kids in worship on Sunday morning from 9:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. There are many great songs on CDs to go along with the new curriculum that can be used and will connect with the theme that is being taught. It's a great way to interact with kids and only takes 15 minutes of your time. Please contact Linda.

<b>Offering of July 24<sup>th</sup>: \$7,516.25</b>			
Budget	\$5,711.25	MCC General	\$1,375.00
Christian Witness	\$340.00	MCC Food	\$20.00
		MCC School Kits	\$70.00
<b>Attendance July 24<sup>th</sup>: German Worship Service- 73 ; Worship Service - 152</b>			

**Offering Focus** – Our weekly budget requirement is \$8,260. 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.

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (August 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>)**

**Monday:** CIVIC HOLIDAY – OFFICE CLOSED  
**Wednesday:** 7:00 pm Education Committee Meeting  
**Friday:** OFFICE CLOSED

**Next Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 am** German Choir Practice  
**9:00 am** German Worship Service- message by Joachim Dau  
**9:00 am** Pick-up Choir Practice  
**10:00 am** Worship Service– Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks

There are no nursery helpers scheduled throughout the summer as it is operating in a self-serve capacity.

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

**August Sermon series: “The Church in Transition: Thriving not Faltering”**

In this sermon series we will explore some of the challenges which face NUMC as a congregation as you deal with a change in pastoral leadership. We will reflect on who you are as a congregation; why this congregation exists; and how to thrive rather than falter as you navigate this next season of congregational life.

**August 7 “Who Are We...?”**

**Pastor Rudy Dirks**

**August 14 “Why Are We...?”**

**Pastor Rudy Dirks**

**August 21 “How do We...?”**

**Pastor Rudy Dirks**

**MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

**Urgent Need: 2000 relief kits and 8000 hygiene kits** Multiple crises around the world including Syria, Iraq and Ukraine have depleted our warehouse inventory. Please help replenish our supply. For information on how to make a kit go to [mcco.ca/kits](http://mcco.ca/kits).

**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.