

*"Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community"*

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.**

**Gathering**

Kathy Rempel

**Call to Worship**

Erv Willms

**Worship in Song**

Jon Bradnam, Rachel Peters, Julieanne Enns & Sharla Wiens

"Power in the Blood"

"Above All"

"Scandal of Grace"

**Congregational Life & Announcements**

Erv Willms

Offering Focus- Christian Witness

"The Wonderful Cross"

**Proclamation**

Children's Moment

Katrina Metsa

"Healer of our every ill" HWB #377

Scripture: Hebrews 10: 10-18 pew Bible p. 1167

Rita Epp

"A forgiving God in an Unforgiving World"

Pastor Dave Lewis

**Sending**

"There is a Well"

Benediction

Pastor Dave Lewis

Today's Nursery Volunteers: Jolien Koole & Laurene Nickel

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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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**German Worship Service - 10:00 am**

**Andachtsleiter: Gunnar Doerwald - Grusswort: Johannes 12:26**

Orgelspiel: Kathy Rempel

Lied: GB #340 "Bei dir, Jesu, will ich bleiben"

Chorlied

**Opfergaben Fokus: Christian Witness**

Lied: GB #352 "Merk, Seele, dir dies grosse Wort"

Chorlied

Schriftwort: Lukas 9: 51-60

**Botschaft: "Auf dem Weg nach Jerusalem" – Udo Woelke**

**JOYS & CONCERNS:**

Please pray for Ingrid Wiens as she recovers at the St. Catharines General Hospital. May God's loving and healing presence be with her.

Please pray for continued healing for Sharon Dirks as she recovers from surgery and awaits pathology results. May we continue to pray for full restoration of health and strength for Sharon.

God bless and comfort those who are sick among us. Although their names are not published weekly, there are those who need to be lifted up to God, We are encouraged to weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who have experienced joy. How blessed we are to be in God's family!

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**World Day of Prayer** - Thank you to everyone from our church family who participated in, contributed to and supported the World Day of Prayer hosted by our church on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Your efforts were appreciated by all.

**Seniors' Tea** The next Seniors' Time Out is scheduled for **Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm** in the gym. All seniors are welcome, so please join us for this time of gathering.

**Pray. Fast. Give. 40 days of Giving.** During Lent this year, we are participating in Niagara Life Centre's ***Change is Good Coin Campaign***. NLC is a vibrant, visible, Christian-based counselling ministry, providing aid for individuals experiencing life crises and caring for families and individuals by offering hope, help and healing. NLC provides education and assistance to groups or individuals in an effort to establish coping skills for those in need, without discriminating in any way, and all services are confidential. Your support, through participation in this campaign, allows NLC to be able to provide free or low-cost counselling services to the hurting in our community. More info is available at [niagaralifecentre.ca](http://niagaralifecentre.ca) or by calling 905-934-0021. The campaign is now underway and concludes on Easter (April 16<sup>th</sup>). Please pick-up your container today at the Welcome Centre!

**Restore Us, O God** Mennonite Church Canada has prepared some wonderful Lent-At-Home booklets for families to use to journey through the Lenten season. Please pick one up from the Welcome Centre today for use with your family or however might be meaningful to you!

**Donation Tax Receipts are available** in your church mailboxes. If you do not have a church mailbox, then your receipt has been mailed out to your home address.

**Bulletin Change** – In a unanimous decision, the Spiritual Council has voted to remove the attendance figures from the bulletin. The insertion of the attendance figures does not align with what we believe to be our spiritual values. However, it was felt to be correct to let the community know the reasoning behind discontinuing the practice. In 2 Samuel 2, King David is reprimanded by God for counting his fighting men, as it indicated putting trust in his army rather than God. In the same way, we felt we were putting our hopes in numbers of attendees rather than in the relationships with Christ that we are building. We recognize that in this age of statistics, this number has meaning. Yet, it is also a number that the powers of this world can use to drown out the voice of God. So, we have decided to discontinue the practice of announcing attendance figures. We encourage you to talk with members of Spiritual Council if you are hearing a different word, that we may discern together what God is saying in this matter.

**The Canadian Mennonite Subscription update:** If you currently subscribe to the Canadian Mennonite and wish to make any changes to your subscription, please contact April in our church office. As a current subscriber, you may opt to receive the latest complete issue of the magazine by e-mail. This is a good option if you change your mailing address regularly, if you want to save paper, if you're moving overseas, or if you prefer to read your magazines online. Send your e-mail address to [office@canadianmennonite.org](mailto:office@canadianmennonite.org) to subscribe to the digital version. If you do not currently subscribe, but would like to receive this twice-monthly print publication, please let April know and she will be happy to arrange this for you at no charge. The mission of this publication is to educate, inspire, inform, and foster dialogue on issues facing Mennonites in Canada as it shares the good news of Jesus Christ from an Anabaptist perspective.

**Transitional Work Group Summary** - Please pick up the report at the Welcome Centre which summarizes our *second* Transitional Work Group session that was held in *January*. This update is designed for the congregation to be informed and included in the progression of the work of this group.

**Office Hours Adjustment**- Our Office Administrator April Michon is recovering from an automobile accident and in following doctor recommendations, is working reduced hours for a few months to help recover from her injuries. The weekly office hours are being printed each week in the bulletin during this time, and are included below:

**Office Hours This Week:**  
Monday: Closed  
Tuesday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Wednesday: Closed  
Thursday: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon  
Friday: 9:00 am – 11:30 am

**Please note that the weekly bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings.** All submissions for the bulletin need to be received in the office no later than Wednesdays at 12:00 noon. Thank-you for your cooperation for working within this timeline.

<b><u>THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (March 11<sup>th</sup> – March 19<sup>th</sup>)</u></b>	
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b> Women's Bible Study <b>7:30 pm</b> Niagara Community Male Chorus Practice
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> Women in Service
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b> Pioneer Club
<b><u>Next Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup></u></b>	
<b>8:45 am</b>	Praise & Worship Practice
<b>9:50 am</b>	Choir Practice
<b>11:00 am</b>	Worship Service – Message from Pastor Dave Lewis
Next week's Nursery volunteers: Wendy Janzen, Sue Fast	

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

<b>Offering of March 5<sup>th</sup> : \$5,640.00</b>			
Budget	\$4,930.00	MCC General	\$480.00
Christian Witness	\$110.00	MCC Food	\$80.00
		MCC School Kits	\$40.00

**Offering Focus** – Our weekly budget requirement is \$7,900. In addition to your budget commitment, this month we encourage your support of Christian Witness. These contributions go to Mennonite Eastern Canada (MCEC) where they are further allocated to support missionaries (including our Mission Partners the Dirks), education, leadership training, church planting, as well as administrative support and benefits. They count on our support. Any church donations not allocated to a specific cause will be directed to our budget.

**Our Upcoming Lenten Sermon Series.... Cross-examined**

*Into a world of hostility and retribution, God introduces the gift of forgiveness. And he did so in a most violent and offensive way. He brought the grace of forgiveness into the world through the cross. How this all works out in our lives requires a 'Cross examination'. For the next few weeks, leading up to Easter, we will go on a journey of examining the cross as it portrays the heart of God for us.*

March 12<sup>th</sup> **A Forgiving God in an Unforgiving World**  
*Galations 1:3-5; Psalm 103:3; Hebrews 10:15-18*

March 19<sup>th</sup> **Cross Walk** *Galations 2:15-21*

March 26<sup>th</sup> **The Foolishness of the Cross**  
*Galations 3:1-3; 1 Corinthians 1:18-23*

April 2<sup>nd</sup> **For Your Freedom and Mine**  
*Galations 5:1,6,11; 6:12*

## **FOR OUR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE:**

**Please Note:** During March Break, there is no Lighthouse or Youth Group running. Please enjoy the extra time with your families and join us when we resume programming! Sr. Youth meets together next on **Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** and Lighthouse will join together on **Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**!

**Junior Youth Retreat at Silver Lake: March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Meet at the church on Friday @ 5:00 pm. The cost will be \$95-\$110. Further details to follow.

## **MENNONITE CHURCH EASTERN CANADA:**

**Delegates Needed for MCEC's Annual Meeting** NUMC has three delegates willing to attend this meeting held in Oakville from April 27<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm- April 28<sup>th</sup> @5 pm. As a congregation we have room for up to 6 more delegates to attend. It is the recommendation of MCEC, which we also support, that delegates attend the Consultation on the Future Directions Task Force Recommendation Meeting, held by MCEC on March 30, 7:00 pm meeting in Vineland if possible. Copies of the proposal that are to be discussed are available on the Future Directions website, or by contacting April in our church office. If you would like to represent our congregation as a delegate, please speak to April Michon.

**MCEC has made available lawn signs that welcome new Canadians.** As Christians, we are called to speak out against any form of violence & especially those that are motivated by religious discrimination and lead to the tragic loss of life. In 3 languages, the sign reads, "No matter where you are from, we are glad you're our neighbour." These signs are available for purchase in our Welcome Centre for \$10 each (which includes the "H stake" for your lawn), and through the rest of the week in the office, while quantities last.

## **MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA:**

**Pilgrimage for Indigenous Rights:** Save the date – **April 23 - May 14** – to join all or part of a 600 km pilgrimage from Kitchener-Waterloo to Ottawa. Details at [www.pfir.ca](http://www.pfir.ca).

**Those attending upcoming Area Church annual meetings** will want to check out documents outlining the re-vitalization of Mennonite Church Canada and Area Churches as a result of our Future Directions process: [futuresdirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal](http://futuresdirectionsmc.ca/the-proposal).

**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.

### **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.