

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

February 11th, 2018

“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 3 years old or younger who are not able to sit through the church service, there is a glassed-in room behind the sanctuary where you may sit with your child and follow along in 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.

Our Lighthouse program, which is a time of fellowship and learning for those aged 4 years to Grade 6 is held each Sunday during the Worship Service. Those in Grade 7 and 8 are also welcome to attend. The children will be called to the front for the Children’s Moment and then released after that. Parents may pick up their children in the Education Wing at the end of the service.

Current Sermon Series ... **RESOLUTE DISCIPLESHIP**

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS? To answer this question, we will consider the words of the apostle Peter who overcame some profound and provocative miscues in his apprenticeship as a follower of Jesus to become a stalwart learner in the discipleship pathway. Beginning with a reluctant faith, he is shaped, mentored, challenged, rebuked and desperately loved by the living Christ into a place of *resolute discipleship*. From a heart purified through the heat of refining fire he hammers out seven virtues that are to distinguish the character of every Christ follower. When purposely added to our lives, these seven virtues outlined by Peter in the opening verses of his second letter will bring more promise, more life, more of God.

January 14	“Doing What You Want- God’s Way”	2 Peter 1:1 – 5a
January 21	“Good to Go”	2 Peter 1:5a
January 28	“The Need to Know”	2 Peter 1:2-3, 5, 8
February 4	“Get a Grip”	2 Peter 1:6a
February 11	“Too Soon to Quit”	2 Peter 1:6b
February 18	“The ‘Me’ God Imagines”	2 Peter 1:3,6c & 1 Timothy 3:15, 16
February 25	“The Feeling’s Mutual”	2 Peter 1:7-11

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Prelude	Kathy Rempel
Congregational Life	Linda Friesen
Worship in Song	Special Music
Children’s Moment	Katrina Metsa

Children exit for Lighthouse

Offering

Offering Focus – see financial section

Scripture Reading

Dan Tissen

(Hebrews 12:1 - 13)

“Too Soon to Quit”

Sending

Pastor David Lewis

JOYS & CONCERNS:

Congratulations!! Fred and Pam Teichgraf are excited to announce the birth of their first grandson, Jackson Edward Taylor. Jackson was born on February 5th to Stephanie and Paul.

The Peter Dirks family wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks to all who spoke words of encouragement, sent messages of condolence and flowers to honour Marie/Mary/Mom/Oma. The funeral service was enriched by the choir, The Rempels, Pastor David Lewis’ faith filled leadership and April Michon’s attention to detail, for all our visuals and for John Neustaedter for operating our sound. It was lovely. The hot tea and coffee provided by the familiar faces of our Helping Hands team at Bethany, warmed our hearts as we arrived for the fellowship luncheon. Finally we want to thank everyone for their prayers. Peter Sr has recovered fully from pneumonia and influenza. It will take longer for his heart to heal. We trust that God will continue to hold his hand in Marie’s absence, for no one stands alone.

-Peter John Dirks & Susan Kaye

Please pray for Luanne Kulchar as she recovers from her second knee replacement surgery this past week at Sunnybrook in Toronto. She is now back at home and feeling optimistic for another successful recovery. Let us keep her in our prayers that all goes as planned.

Please continue to pray for Jake Wiens, who remains in hospital, with declining health. Let this praying community uphold Jake and his family in prayer, as they seek an available and appropriate new home for him. May the provision, wisdom and guidance of our Father in Heaven be upon this family, offering his love and peace. May Jake experience comfort from his pain and the loving presence of the Spirit.

Please continue to pray for: Audrey Epp & Rosemary (Rhodie) Marshall, as well as those who are experiencing need in our community, who have not made public their prayer needs at this time.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

The annual Lent-at-Home Devotional Booklets are again available to guide families from Shrove Tuesday through Easter Sunday. Mennonite Church Canada puts these wonderful family resources together for you for no charge, so please feel free to pick these up from the Welcome Centre! Lent begins this coming week- join the Lenten journey with Chris, Selah and Gloria! ☺

IMMEDIATE VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: During this time while we are borrowing Bethany's auditorium for our Funeral Fellowship meals, we need two additional funeral volunteer roles which have not been required in our facility. They have asked us to provide someone to operate their elevator lift, as well as turn on their sound system (flick an on/off switch). The minimal orientation required for these roles will be provided. If you would be willing to help with either of these roles in this temporary time that we are without our basement, **please let our church office know ASAP.**

Lighthouse Cancellations: Please note that there will be NO Lighthouse next week: **Sun. Feb. 18th**, as it will not run over Family Day weekend. Also, it will not run on **Mar. 11th** or **Mar. 18th** during March Break.

Baked Goods Welcomed: Our Senior Youth will be heading to Hidden Acres Camp on **Friday, February 16** for a weekend-long Winter Retreat. They will be joining a number of other area MCEC youth for this event. In an effort to keep costs down, they are inviting support in the form of nut-free baked goods. If interested, please get in contact with Becca Willms at any time leading up to that date. Thank you in advance!

Upper Room A second shipment of the January-February Upper Room issue has come in to us (at no additional charge). Please collect these from your mailboxes. If you do not have a friend to pass it along to, you are invited to drop it in the book bin in our mailbox room and they will be donated.

Finally - our next newcomer family is arriving! They are a young couple with 16-month-old twin boys, and they will be living with the wife's parents, the Raad family. We hope to introduce them to the congregation after they have settled in. It's taking a bit of thought to remember what people with toddlers need, especially when there are twins. At this point we still need one car seat, one highchair, and a double stroller (or two single ones to start), in case anyone has any of these items to share. We will also be happy to accept toddler clothing, although the family is prepared for thrift-shopping, too. Thank you to everyone who has donated goods already. Anything not needed will be passed on to the Christian Benefit Shop.

- Greta Wiens, Sponsorship & Settlement Committee.

Baptism Preparation These classes continue to be held in the Board Room on the second floor of the Education wing at **9:45 a.m. Sunday mornings**. If you feel called to be baptized this year, or would like to explore the option, please join us for these classes.

NIAGARA UM FINANCIALS:

Offering of February 4th: \$6,875.50			
Budget	\$ 5,360.50	MCC General	\$ 835.00
Christian Witness	\$ 310.00	MCC Food	\$ 20.00
Capital Fund	\$ 200.00	MCC Relief	\$ 100.00
Helping Hands	\$ 50.00		

Offering Focus – Our weekly budget requirement is \$7,654. 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.

Children’s Coin Collection Thank-you to all for supporting our **children’s coin collecting** with your coin donations. Our last project funds of \$975.00 went to MCC for Christmas Gift Giving of chicks, rabbits, and goats for families in Africa to provide sources of food and income. Our present project will go to MCC Relief Sale “My Coins Count” to support MCC projects of relief, development and peace around the world. Once again, thank-you for supporting our children and MCC through your donations.

MENNONITE CHURCH EASTERN CANADA:

MCEC Annual Church Gathering :Connected: Striving side by side with one mind *"Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel."* *Philippians 1:27* Mark your calendars. Registration will open in the next few weeks. All are welcome. **April 27 – 28th** @ Redeemer University College, Ancaster. Please contact April in the church office if you would like to be registers as an NUMC church delegate.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

"Lower Back Pain in Later Life" Niagara-on-the-Lake's InfoHealth lectures at the Public Library provide timely, accurate information about health matters for residents in the area. This InfoHealth lecture and Q&A session will take place on **Wednesday, February 14, at 1 pm**, at the NOTL Public Library, and will be presented by Dr. William Brown. For more information see the link: <https://notlpubliclibrary.org/infohealth>

Eden High School Council is selling delicious high-quality pork sausage. Feed your family and support this great school at the same time. Go to eden.dsbn.org and click the sausage link. Register with school cash if you haven't done so already. Sale ends **Feb. 19th**. Need more info please contact Alex Baergen @ 905 327 6052.

St. Catharines Right to Life Dinner: Saturday, February 24, 6:00 p.m. at Holiday Inn Parkway Conference Centre, 327 Ontario St., St. Catharines. Guest Speaker: Josh Brahm, founder of the Equal Rights Institute. Join us for an excellent dinner, fellowship and an outstanding pro-life speaker who will inform, inspire and encourage us. To reserve tickets (\$50, \$25 for students), call our office 684-7505 or email: info@chooselife.ca . More info at ChooseLife.ca

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (February 12th – February 18th)

Monday: **7:00 pm** Women's Bible Study (off-site location)
 7:30 pm Niagara Community Male Chorus

Wednesday: **6:30 pm** Pioneer Club

Thursday: **7:00 pm** Praise & Worship Practice

Friday: **5:30 pm** Youth Retreat

Sunday, February 18th

9:20 am German Choir Practice – 3rd floor of education wing

9:45 am Choir Practice – 3rd floor of education wing

9:45 am Baptism Class- Board Room

9:50 am German Worship Service – Message by Renate Klaassen

10:20 am Worship Team Meeting – Room #30 on the 3rd floor

10:45 am Worship Service – Message by Pastor David Lewis

**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, on CD or DVD. Please place your order through the church office.

Online Filming Privacy Notice – Our church services are recorded for streaming 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.