ime yer Ø MARCH 2022

NIAGARA UNITED MENNONITE CHURCH

#### ""YOU CAN DO MORE THAN PRAY AFTER YOU HAVE PRAYED, BUT YOU CANNOT DO MORE THAN PRAY UNTIL YOU HAVE PRAYED."

#### ~ A.J. GORDON

#### FOR THIS TIME OF GATHERED PRAYER:

Find a place in the sanctuary that is comfortable for you. In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, please respect physical distancing protocols and keep face masks in place. Don't forget to switch off cell phones.

Welcome the silence. Listening is as much a part of prayer as speaking. If you have trouble hearing others who are praying out loud, take that as an opportunity to simply support that person in prayer, knowing that God will hear.

In spoken prayers for others, please be respectful of privacy & confidentiality boundaries; unless a matter is already public knowledge, avoid naming individuals and their personal situation without the express permission of those involved

You may enter or leave at any time as you need. We will conclude the formal time at 6:55 with praying the Lord's Prayer together;

## THE SEASON OF LENT:

The season of Lent is a 40-day period leading up to Good Friday, a time Christians throughout the centuries have devoted to fasting and sober reflection, in keeping with the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness prior to beginning his active ministry (Matthew 4:1-11).

This years Lenten season begins today, Ash Wednesday, a day traditionally designated for prayers of confession and repentance.

# PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR THIS SEASON:

As winter persists all around us, what is frozen within us, that yearns for God's grace to thaw out and revive?

What failures, weaknesses, temptations, or fears stand between you and a deeper relationship with God?

What might you commit to fasting from for the next 40 days, as a symbolic way of identifying with Jesus' suffering and death for your salvation?

What discipline might you want to adopt in order to strengthen your faith?

## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY:

Pray that someone may be found to take on leadership in worship planning and kids' ministry, while Rachael is on maternity leave.

Pray for Lena Klassen, who is requesting membership in our faith family.

Pray for Henry Dirks Sr. who has been hospitalized for some time.

## **PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD:**

Pray for the people in Ukraine, whose lives are being shattered by war, and for all for whom these events re-awaken fearful memories of a dark time in their own past.

As pandemic restrictions loosen, pray for health and healing, and for virtues of truth, compassion and kindness to prevail in our nation after the hostilities expressed in protests last month. My Prayers throughout the month of March:

