

## Connect...

### Online

redbrickchurch.ca

### Bulletins

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### Calendar of Events

redbrickchurch.ca/  
calendar

### Archived Services

redbrickchurch.ca/  
resources/sermons/

### Giving

redbrickchurch.ca/give

### Facebook

facebook.com/  
redbrickchurchniagara

### Contact

1775 Niagara Stone Road  
905-468-3313  
office@redbrickchurch.ca

### Office Hours & Staff

Tuesday-Friday 9am-2pm  
Daniel: Tues, Thurs-Fri,  
9:30am-2:30pm  
*Ring the doorbell at the glass doors!*

### Red Brick E-News Sign Up

https://redbrickchurch.c  
a/through-the-doors/

## Within the Community...

### Silver Lake Mennonite Camp Winter and Spring Retreats

registration now open. Go to  
slmc.ca/retreats for more info.

Coming up soon:

**Women's Retreat** (Jan 31-Feb 2) –  
Come, experience the beauty of  
camp in winter. Be nourished by  
the relaxed pace, good food and  
meaningful conversation. Play in  
the snow, breathe deeply in yoga,  
cross country ski, go on a  
snowshoe hike through the woods.  
Reflection time led by Wendy  
Janzen.

### Looking Ahead...

#### Next Week

#### Sunday January 19 at 10am

Worship Service  
Red Brick Kids

#### 11:15am to 11:45am

Adult Sunday School  
Anabaptism@500

## Niagara United Mennonite Church



[Click here](#) to watch the Live Stream.

[Click here](#) to watch archived videos during the week.

Welcome! We are so glad that you have chosen to attend  
Niagara UM today! If you have any questions or would like to  
learn about what happens on a Sunday morning please visit the  
Welcome Centre desk in the foyer or ask an usher.

**January 12, 2025**  
**Worship Service at 10:00am**

Welcome		Joachim Dau
Worship in Song		Ensemble
Children's Moment		Karen Wiens
Community Prayer		
Anabaptism@500 Moment		
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 2:4-10, Romans 10:5-13, John 3:16-17	
Message	"The Gift of Salvation"	John Tiessen
Closing Song		
Sending Blessing		

***If it is your desire to support work of the church,  
donations can be dropped off at the Welcome Centre.***

## Within Red Brick Church...

### **Red Brick Kids MCC Fundraiser**

There will be a PINK basket by the Welcome centre. It's an opportunity to support Red Brick Kids who will continue to raise funds for MCC to help those in need. Thanks in advance for your ongoing support and love.

The Red brick kids' own offerings can go in to a offering box at the administration table when they sign in.

GIVING IS AN INVESTMENT FOR ETERNITY.

"Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share whatever God has given you. By doing this, you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity." 1 Timothy 6:18-19 (LB)

### **Church Board Elections & Program Volunteers**

NUMC is looking for new members to serve in various positions on our Church Board as well as other volunteer positions. Please consider these opportunities to become involved in the life of the church. The 2025 Church Board and other positions will be approved at our Annual General Meeting in February. More details to follow. Thank you

### **AGM Reports Due on Wednesday!**

Please submit your AGM reports to the church office by no later than January 15, 2025. Word documents or PDFs are preferred. If you have any questions please contact Julie in the church office at 905-468-3313 or [office@redbrickchurch.ca](mailto:office@redbrickchurch.ca).

### **Anabaptism@500 Adult Sunday School**

After the Sunday Worship today, from 11-11:45am, we will be looking into how the Anabaptist faith is being lived out across the world today. Everyone is welcome!

### **Financial Update:**

The church board thanks all church family members for their financial contributions in 2024. Pleased to report that budget donations will cover our projected expenses.

The financial summary will be available in the annual report and at our church membership meeting.

We do ask that everyone review their annual giving online and report any discrepancies to the office before we issue the annual income tax receipts. Contact the office and Julie can also provide a statement.

We received a cheque dated Dec 31 with no name or member number attached. If this was you please contact Julie in the office so she can apply it to your account.

Blessing and Happy New Year

## Family News...

Please keep the families of Kaethe Fieguth and Emilie Pauls in your prayers. A graveside service was held on January 8, 2025 for Kaethe Fieguth, and a funeral service was held here at NUMC on January 9, 2025 for Emilie Pauls.

**Over the next couple of weeks, as we acknowledge the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism, we will be sharing short dramatic readings to share with you some of the history and distinctive foundations of Anabaptist – Mennonite understandings of our life as a Christian faith community.**

### **Anabaptism@500... The Birth of Anabaptism**

The late medieval Roman Church, from which the 16th-century reformers emerged, was a complex institution. Over time, the church, particularly the papacy, became deeply entangled in the political affairs of Western Europe. This involvement, coupled with growing wealth and power, led to widespread corruption and the erosion of the church's spiritual integrity. Practices such as the sale of indulgences (spiritual privileges) further undermined the church's authority.

Martin Luther was a German priest, theologian, and professor. Over time, he grew increasingly critical of several teachings and practices of the Roman Church. In October 1517, he wrote his "Ninety-Five Theses", intending to spark an academic debate rather than incite a revolution. However, the Theses became the catalyst for the Protestant Reformation and marked the birth of Protestantism.

In the Theses, Luther argued that true repentance, as required by Christ for the forgiveness of sins, is an inner, spiritual transformation rather than an external sacramental act.

He emphasized that salvation and eternal life are not earned through good deeds but are freely given by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Luther also criticized the practice of indulgences, which he believed falsely assured believers of forgiveness without genuine repentance. He attacked the notion that indulgences made repentance unnecessary, warning against the spiritual danger of such beliefs.

The publication of the Theses alarmed church authorities. The Archbishop of Mainz, offended by Luther's critiques, forwarded the document to Rome in December 1517. By August 1518, Luther was summoned to Rome to answer charges of heresy, and he was ultimately excommunicated in 1521.

Luther's reforms inspired other movements, including Anabaptism. Anabaptists rejected infant baptism, advocating for believer's baptism as a conscious declaration of faith. They also emphasized non-resistance, separation from state authorities, and simple living. Seen as radical by both Protestants and Catholics, Anabaptists faced severe persecution, yet their beliefs laid the foundation for groups like the Mennonites.

~ Randy Klaassen, Ali Neufeld and Harold Neufeld.