

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

February 15th, 2015

Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Kathy Rempel

Call to Worship

John Epp

Worship in Song

“Brethren, we have met to worship” HWB #8

“I saw a tree by the riverside” STS #116

“I will come to you in the silence” STS #49

Congregational Life & Announcements

John Epp

Offering Focus- MCC

“Thy blessed image, Saviour”

Proclamation

Children’s Story

Pastor Rudy Dirks

“Two fishermen” HWB #227

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-11, pew Bible pg. 1055

Werner Fast

“Apprenticing Jesus”

Pastor Rudy Dirks

Sending

“Slowly turning, ever turning” STJ #23

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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 yrs 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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Today’s nursery volunteers:

Wendy Janzen & Kendra Sawatzky

German Worship Service – 10:00 am

Andachtsleiter: Wilhelm Harder – Grusswort: Psalm 92:2-3 & Psalm 99:5

Orgelspiel: Giesela Doerwald

Opfergaben Fokus: MCC

Chorlied

Lied: GB #255 “Horch dein Heiland läßt dich laden” alle Verse

Chorlied

Schriftwort: Matthäus 13,10-17

Botschaft: “Warum Gleichnisse?” – Ramona Neufeld

Lied: GB #436 “Die Zeit ist kurz, o Mensch sei weise” alle Verse

JOYS & CONCERNS:

We express our sympathies to Ingrid Regier and her family on the sudden passing of her husband Eckhard last Saturday. His funeral was held here on Wednesday. May the healing power of Jesus bring peace and comfort in the coming days.

Scott and Yvonne Vanderlee are pleased to announce the arrival of their third child Jeremy Joseph. Jeremy was born on February 10th, weighing a healthy 8lbs 9ounces. Joshua and Hannah are both very excited about the newest addition to the family.

The flowers at the front of the church today are in memory of Willy & Tina Janzen who passed away 20 years ago today, on February 15th. They are lovingly remembered by their family.

The flowers at the front of the church are placed in loving memory of Henry Esau, who passed away one year ago on February 18th. He is fondly remembered and deeply missed by his wife Kaethe, his children Dorothy and Danny Wurster, Dagmar and Toni Burch, Christiane Esau and Victor Paroyan, and his grandchildren Robert, Kaitlyn and Andrea Wurster, and Stephan, Eric and Lukas Burch.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

2014 Year-end Tax Receipts are now in your church mailbox if you have one, and will remain there for two weeks. All receipts not picked up within two weeks will be mailed to your home address. All receipts for individuals or families who do not have a mailbox have been mailed out to you. If you do not have a mailbox, but would like one, please connect with April in the office.

Senior's Tea and Social on Sunday, February 22 at 3pm here at the church. Come, all seniors, for a Sunday afternoon coffee or tea and some goodies by Audrey! As we continue discussions on Aging With Grace, we will be talking about "Having Necessary Conversations".

Attention women of all ages! Join us on **March 3rd at 7:00pm** in the choir room for an evening of worship and fellowship.

For LENT: Are you interested in participating in a Lent experience this year? Would you be willing to host a small group for 4 or 5 weekly sessions? Another possibility is to host a Shabbat meal in your home (usually adapted to a Mennonite Faspa in our case!) The theme for this year is " ". The Pastoral staff has organized some materials which you can use if you are interested. Please talk to one of us if you would like to participate in one way or another.

How's your marriage? If you'd like to put some new life and energy into your marriage, Mennonite and Brethren Marriage Encounter are a wonderful way to grow. Check out the pamphlet which Sharon has, or visit the website at www.marriageencounter.com. There is a retreat coming up on May 29-31 in Wainfleet.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (February 16th – February 22nd)

- Monday: FAMILY DAY- Office Closed**
- Tuesday:** *There is no Tuesday morning Women in Service this week*
5:00 pm Women in Service Pot-luck Social
7:00 pm Spiritual Council Meeting
- Wednesday: 6:30 pm** Pioneer Club
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting
- Thursday: 8:00 pm** Choir Practice
- Friday: 6:30 pm** Youth Band
7:30 pm Youth

Next Sunday, February 22nd

- 8:45 am** Praise & Worship Practice
- 9:30 am** Sunday School & Singing
- 10:00 am** Interactive Sermon – in the gym
- 10:00 am** Catechism Class – in the boardroom
- 10:00 am** Sunday Morning Youth – in the Youth Room
- 11:00 am** Worship Service – Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks
- 3:00 pm** Seniors Valentine's Day Tea – in the Auditorium

Our Nursery volunteers for next week: Eugene & Anna Kradko

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

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Sermon Series: "Live in the Kingdom"

Over most of the past year our sermons followed the story of God's intentions and work from creation to Christ's return in "God's Story: My Story". The central purpose of the series was to connect the Biblical stories and passages into a clear and understandable narrative. The key invitation was for each of us to find ourselves and our story, in God's Story.

For the next few months we will explore Jesus' teachings on exactly how we can become part of God's story. Jesus spoke more about the Kingdom of God than any other topic. Nothing is more important than understanding what the Kingdom of God is; how we can be part of it; and what it means in our daily life.

January 25 - "The Upside Down Kingdom" Luke 4:14-30

February 1 - "Whose Disciple Are You?" Luke 5:1-11

February 8 - "The Kingdom of Heaven is Like..." Matt 13:31-33, Matt 20:1-16

February 15 - "Apprenticing to Jesus" Acts 1:1-11

Offering of February 8th: \$4,728.80			
Budget	\$3,565.80	MCC General	\$655.00
Friends of Menn. Cntr Ukraine	\$50.00	MCC Food	\$458.00
Attendance on February 8th: Worship- 221			

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA:

Mennonite World Conference is coming to North America in 2015, and registration is open! At this reunion of Mennonites and Anabaptists from around the world, all ages are welcome. Join for a feast of fellowship, song, laughter and worship. Costs, lodging, schedule and other details are available at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015.

If you feel as though you would like to be of some use while at the Mennonite World Conference, Mennonite World Conference needs you!! Volunteers are needed before, during and after the gathering to assist from near and far. Volunteers during assembly receive a discounted registration rate. More information can be found at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015volunteer.

Did you know that Mennonite World Conference has a prayer network? You can sign up for monthly messages with meditations, stories, information about Pennsylvania 2015, and prayer requests. Join us in walking mindfully together in prayer, as we prepare to gather for the next MWC assembly. More info at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015prayernetwork.

An Evening of Song

Please join us as musician, song writer, teacher and worship leader, Marilyn Houser Hamm leads us in an exciting Evening of Song.

The First Mennonite Church (Vineland), located at 3557 Rittenhouse Rd, Vineland, is hosting this special event hymn sing evening on Saturday, February 21 at 7:30pm. We also welcome musicians to join us in accompanying Marilyn as she leads us on a journey of song. (Musicians, please contact Jane at 905-834-5138 for details.)



OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

Pancakes and Sausage Supper – Bethany Mennonite Church Men invite you to join us on **Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 17th**, for a delicious evening meal and great fellowship. Supper will be served from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and all proceeds raised will be donated to Newark Neighbours and Red Roof Retreat, two very worthwhile community organizations. Hope to see many of you at this event. The cost is by donation. Suggested donations: \$10 per person/\$25 per family.

People on the move: The human face of migration | Thurs. Feb. 19th – 7 pm

Bethany Community Church, 1388 Third Street, St. Catharines

Experience this important exhibit through former refugees who will share their stories of migration and resettlement. More info at mcco.ca/events.

We welcome friends and supporters to the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Bible Society on Monday, February 23rd at Scottlea Presbyterian Church. Find more information on the poster on our community bulletin board. To register, phone 905-646-8062.

It's that time again! Sausage orders are back in full swing! All orders to be given to Alex Baergen, Phone: 905-327-6052. Email: alexbaergen@live.com

Online: <http://www.edenschoolcouncil.ca/fundraisers-sausage.html> Sale starts: Feb 1st & Sale closes: **Feb 24th**. Pick up is Sat. Mar. 7th from 10am - 12pm.

St. Catharines Right to Life Dinner: Saturday, February 28th at Holiday Inn, 327 Ontario St., St. Catharines. Reception: 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m. Guest Speaker: Author Trent Horn will speak on "How to Talk About our Culture's Toughest Issue." Tickets: \$45, Students \$25. Call the RTL office 905-684-7505 or email info@chooselife.ca to reserve your spot. www.ChooseLife.ca

Women's Retreat: February 27-March 1st at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp. Skating on the lake, relaxing in the sauna, enjoying a massage, snowshoeing, cross country skiing or walking through the woods, stargazing on a horse drawn sleigh ride and savouring exceptional food. For more information and to register visit www.slmc.ca/retreats or call 519-422-3200.

"Along the Road to Freedom: Mennonite Women of Courage & Faith" Art Exhibit on now at St Catharines UM Church. Public viewing hours are **Mon - Fri, 9 am- 1 pm and Wed & Fri evenings, 7 - 8:30, until March 8th**. There is no fee for viewing the exhibit, however those who wish to support the expense of hosting the exhibit there is a donation box in the Fellowship Room.

The Art of Giving for a SOUP-er Cause! Get your tickets for the 10th Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser, **March 11th** at Club Roma in St. Catharines. Enjoy soups prepared by Niagara Region chefs in one of a kind pottery bowls created by local potters. Help end homelessness and reduce the impact of poverty in the Niagara Region. Presented by Bethlehem Housing and Support Services. Visit www.bethlehemhousing.ca or call 905.684.1660 ext. 1.

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.