

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

May 7, 2017

Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Laury Willms

Call to Worship

John Tiessen

Worship in Song

“Here we stand Lord”

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” HWB # 37

“When Jesus the Healer” StS # 44

Congregational Life & Announcements

John Tiessen

Offering Focus- Pork on a Bun

“Let the children come to me” StS# 47

Proclamation

Children’s Moment

Jon Bradnam

“Prayer of the children”

Scripture: Colossians 2: 1-15, pew Bible p. 1143

Fred Teichgraf

“What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus”

Pastor Dave Lewis

Sending

“Lord, You have come to the lakeshore” HWB #229

Benediction

Pastor Dave Lewis

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Today’s Nursery Volunteers: Christina Cox & Jolien Koole  
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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: Joachim Dau**

**Orgelspiel: Marlene Borzychowski**

“Jesus nimmt die Sünder an” V.1-3, 5 GB # 254

**Opfergaben Fokus: Pork on a Bun**

"Mir ist Erbarmung widerfahren" V. 1-3 GB: #301

Chorlied

**Schriftwort: Lukas 15:11-32**

**Botschaft: "Das Himmelreich ist nicht Fair" – Udo Woelke**

## **MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:**

**Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) scheduling volunteers for Fort McMurray response.** Weekly volunteers are needed starting May 14 to begin rebuilding in Fort McMurray. Volunteers have two options. Sign up for Fort McMurray, where volunteers will construct basements or sign up for Saskatoon, where volunteers will build Ready to Move homes that will be moved to Fort McMurray and set on the basements. To sign up contact the Weekly Crew Volunteer Coordinator, Darin Bontrager at [dbontrager@mds.mennonite.net](mailto:dbontrager@mds.mennonite.net) or by calling 1-800-241-8111. You can also fill out an online form at <https://mds.mennonite.net/volunteer/>.

More info is available on the Missions & Service bulletin board in our foyer.

## **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).

## **MENNONITE CHURCH EASTERN CANADA:**

**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).

## **OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:**

Pleasant Manor would like to extend a thank you to all you – the churches in Niagara – that support the work that we do hear, caring for the seniors in our community.

**Memorial Service on Thursday, May 18 at 7:00 PM.** We will be celebrating the lives of our residents and tenants who have passed away over these last six months.

**Farmers Day Saturday June 17st – 10:00am-1:00pm.** We would like to invite the greater Pleasant Manor Community by inviting you the members of our constituency churches to this year’s Farm Day. If you have not had the joy of experiencing Farm Day, you should know that this is the perfect day to bring the generations of your family together! The young and young at heart gather together to enjoy live music, BBQ food and many attractions including performance by Marty Allen Band, Pony Rides, a Jump and Bounce, displays by Niagara Antique Power Association and much more! Everyone is invited to join us – Rain or Shine! (We plan to use the parking garage in case of rain) We will be selling burgers and hotdogs, ice cream with local strawberries (if they are still in season) and corn on the cob to raise money to support resident programming. Bring your lawn chairs! We hope you can come!

## **MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

**The New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Plant Tent** is looking for donations of plants: perennials, succulents, house plants, native, berries, shrubs, and annuals. We would love your potted plants, labelled with name if possible and mention the colour if it has a bloom. More details on delivery, quantity, etc. will be on our website in the coming weeks ([www.nhmrs.com](http://www.nhmrs.com)).

**10th Annual Run for Relief May 27th at 8:00 am** at the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale. Come out for some exercise and work up an appetite before enjoying all the great food at the Relief Sale! This fun event includes a 5k Run and a 2k Run/Walk. You can register for the race, select your t-shirt size, set up a customized page, tell your friends, and collect donations online at [nhmrs.com/run-for-relief](http://nhmrs.com/run-for-relief). All money raised goes to support MCC.

### **Save-the-date for MCC Ontario's Annual General Meeting**

12:30-3 pm, Sat, Sep 30, Community Room, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener

The format of our AGM is different this year. We will begin at 12:30 pm with lunch, followed by worship and reporting on what MCC Ontario has been up to for the past year and what we have planned for the year ahead! More info will be available soon.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

### **Office Hours This Week:**

Monday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (Emily)

Tuesday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (April)

Wednesday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (Emily)

Thursday: 10:00 am – 2:30 pm (April)

Friday: 10:00 am – 2:30 pm (April)

### **New Hamburg MCC Relief Sale – Pork on a Bun** – May 26 & 27

It is that time of year again and the relief sale is coming up fast. For nearly 50 years Niagara UM and Bethany Mennonite Churches have contributed to the ministry of MCC through our Pork on a Bun project. We need you help again to make this happen. Please join us on Saturday May 27 in New Hamburg. Call Joachim Dau to reserve the time slot you would like.

**Niagara on the Lake Peach festival – Saturday August 12.** In past years we have produced and sold Peach Salsa and Jam at the festival. Our participation in the festival very much fits with NUMC's renewed focus to engage the local community. Here is where we need the congregation's help. We need to commit to making peach salsa and participating in the Festival within the next few weeks. In particular, at this time, we are asking for volunteers to commit to helping on August 12<sup>th</sup> and the week leading up. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer for the next two Sundays. Without commitment we will likely need to decline participating this year. Please contact Bill Devolin.

**On Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** the congregation is invited to participate in a second **Congregational Call to Prayer** addressing the transitional journey we are on together. This is a follow-up to the 100 days of prayer in which the Transitional Work Group and prayer partners participated. However, it is not limited to members of the Transitional Work Group and their prayer partners. We will be celebrating our collective prayer experience and discerning where and what God may have in mind for us as a congregation moving forward. This is a vital gathering for the church.

**New Library books** in our church library. Please come and see what is new and exciting in our beautiful church library. New books are on the window sill.

**A book of original Gospel songs and hymns written by Eric Goerz** has been added to our church library. It was written over an approximate 60 year period, the songs and music are presented in 4 part harmony and are suitable for piano and guitar accompaniment. Included also is a brief history of the recent musical group "Peach Pickers" with applicable photos.

**May newsletter, calendar and Life in Christ** are available at the Welcome Center.

**My Coins Count** containers are out and have been placed by the whiteboard near the office, one by the mail boxes and one on the Welcome Center. Containers will be out until May 21<sup>st</sup>. Funds raised will go to the MCC relief sale.

**'Change for Life' Baby Bottle Campaign for Hannah house** will start on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Baby bottles will be available for pickup from the Welcome Center. Donations from the 'Change for Life' campaign are used to enable Hannah House to provide its young mothers and babies with food, shelter, programming and educational opportunities as well as cover household expenses.

### **Stephen Cox is Moving On**

As announced in early April, Stephen Cox visited a church in Kitchener called "The Gathering" to candidate for the position of Lead Pastor.

His weekend went very well, he has been offered the position and he has accepted. Steve will be continuing his work here until his contract has completed on July 31. We are happy for Steve and his family as he takes on a larger role in his work for the church.

The Transitional Workgroup will be meeting on May 6 to discuss the future structure of our church including all pastoral staff. These recommendations will be reviewed at the May 9 Church Council meeting and a detailed staffing plan will be presented at the May 30 Membership Meeting.

## **LIGHTHOUSE:**

### **ATTENTION ALL PARENTS: MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 14**

The children will be singing three songs in the service. PLEASE have your children in the gymnasium for Lighthouse Praise & Worship this Sunday and on the 14th by 9:45 sharp. On Mother's Day the kids will be staying in the gym for a group craft after which they will be led to the sanctuary where they will be going directly onto the stage, singing the three songs and joining the children's story. They will then go join their parents. They will be bringing the craft home for their mother's so they will leaving them in the gym on a designated table ready for them to pick up after the service.

**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.

## **JOYS & CONCERNS:**

**The family of Jake Neufeld** thanks all of you for your loving support during this time of our grief. We thank especially the Helping Hands friends who served us a wonderful meal, the choir who served us with such comforting songs, Steve Cox whose spiritual leadership was duly present and all others who helped and cared along the way. We are still enjoying the beautiful flowers and lovely cards. God is good.

**Please pray for Reinhard Gau,** is out of hospital and convalescing from surgery. He would like to thank the congregation for your prayers and support and ask you continue to pray for him as he convalescing

**God bless and comfort those who are suffering 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. Please continue to reach out to those around you and extend the loving care of God. How blessed we are to be in His family!

**PASSION – unpacking the heartbeat of Paul’s letter to the Colossians**

The apostle Paul wrote from a prison cell a celebrative short letter to the emerging church in Colosse. At the heart of his word to these Christians was a passionate appeal for them to live in the reality that God had rescued them from the dominion of darkness and brought them into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom they have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (1:13, 14). The letter to the Colossians is all about being receptive to the work of Christ in securing for us release from the disappointment of morally bankrupt living. The provision of Jesus reaches into the core of our being with the liberating message of deliverance and calls us to follow Him as rescued rescuers. And so, as we journey forward from the Easter event, we embrace the apostle’s passionate call to journey with our victorious Lord.

- April 30      **“Who is Jesus?”** *Stephen Cox*  
Colossians 1:1-20
  
- May 7         **“What does it mean to be a Follower of Christ?”** *Dave Lewis*  
Colossians 1:21-2:23
  
- May 21       **“When do we know we are living like Jesus?”** *Dave Lewis*  
Colossians 3:1-17
  
- May 28       **“What does Jesus bring to working households?”** *Dave Lewis*  
Colossians 3:18-4:6

| <b><u>THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (May 8<sup>th</sup> – May 14<sup>th</sup>)</u></b> |                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday:</b>                                                                 | <b>7:00 pm</b> Worship Committee Meeting                        |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>                                                                | <b>7:00 pm</b> Church Council Meeting                           |
| <b>Friday:</b>                                                                 | <b>7:30 pm</b> Youth                                            |
| <b>Next Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> Mother’s Day</b>                           |                                                                 |
| <b>8:45 am</b>                                                                 | Praise & Worship Practice                                       |
| <b>9:30 am</b>                                                                 | German Choir Practice                                           |
| <b>9:45 am</b>                                                                 | Lighthouse Praise & Worship Practicing for Mother’s Day Service |
| <b>9:50 am</b>                                                                 | Choir Practice                                                  |
| <b>11:00 am</b>                                                                | Worship Service – Message from David Lewis                      |
| Next week’s Nursery volunteers: Kathe Wiens & Laurene Nickel                   |                                                                 |

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

| <b>Offering of April 30<sup>th</sup> : \$ 6,784.00</b> |             |             |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Budget                                                 | \$ 5,309.00 | MCC General | \$ 875.00 |
| Christian Witness                                      | \$230.00    | MCC Food    | \$ 320.00 |
| MCC Famine Relief                                      | \$ 50.00    |             |           |

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**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.

**Church Contacts:**

Church Phone: (905) 468-3313 | Website: <http://www.redbrickchurch.ca>

Intentional Interim Pastor: David Lewis [dave@redbrickchurch.ca](mailto:dave@redbrickchurch.ca)

Associate Pastor: Youth and Christian Education: Stephen Cox [scox@redbrickchurch.ca](mailto:scox@redbrickchurch.ca)

Office Administrator: April Michon [office@redbrickchurch.ca](mailto:office@redbrickchurch.ca)

**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.