

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

August 20th, 2017

Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.

Gathering

Marlene Borzychowski

Call to Worship

Erv Willms

Worship in Song

Katrina Metsa & Ruth Willms

“This is my Father's World” #154 HWB

“Lord Most High” PowerPoint

Congregational Life & Announcements

Erv Willms

Offering Focus- Christian Witness

“My Soul is Filled with Joy” #13 STJ

Proclamation

Children's Moment

Katrina Metsa

“Be Thou My Vision” PowerPoint

Scripture: Matthew 6:19-34, Pew Bible p. 938-939

Ruth Willms

“What Jesus says about Ambition”

Pastor Dave Lewis

Sending

“Jesus All for Jesus” PowerPoint

Benediction

Pastor Dave Lewis

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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 - 9:00 am

Andachtsleiter: Lani Gade – Grusswort: Lukas 8: 5-8

Orgelspiel: Giesela Doerwald

Lied: GB #16 “Du, meine Seele, singe” V. 1, 2, 4

Chorlied

Opfergaben Fokus: Christian Witness

Lied: GB #352 “Merk, Seele, dir dies grosse Wort” V. 1-4

Chorlied

Schriftwort: Matthäus 13: 24-30, 36-43

Botschaft: “Unkraut” – Udo Woelke

JOYS & CONCERNS:

Please continue to pray for Audrey Epp and family, as Audrey continues to suffer failing health. May our precious Lord and Comforter bring his tender, loving peace to Audrey, as well as to her family, along with the strength they need to endure this difficult time for them all. They really value and appreciate the prayers and visits of their church family at this time.

Congratulations to Kevin Glass and Victoria Natalie who were married yesterday at an offsite location. We wish them all the best in their married life together and pray for God's blessing and loving care to guide and direct them always.

Praise God for Erika Froese who is now home from the hospital. Please continue to pray for Erika.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

Upcoming Time Changes: We will be changing the times of our worship services, as well as Lighthouse, starting on **Sunday, September 10th**. The German Worship Service will begin at 9:50 a.m., followed by the English Service at 10:45 a.m. Everyone (including children) will worship together for the first 20-25 minutes of the service at which time the children will be released to go to Lighthouse. The English worship service and Lighthouse will end between 11:50 and 12:00 a.m. On Sunday, September 10, we will also be having a potluck to kick off the beginning of the "new year". Please pray for all of this during the coming weeks.

Graduates & Post-Secondary Students – please kindly inform the church office of recent graduations and/or upcoming or continuation of post-secondary studies this fall (program area also). **Deadline is tomorrow.**

We are really excited about getting together with as many ladies (mothers, daughters, omas, friends) of all ages from our church for a time of singing and fellowship (this means food too!). We would like to invite you to come out to church **this Wednesday, August 23rd at 7pm** for fun, fellowship and singing. On Wednesday night will be preparing the music for the **Sunday Worship service on August 27th**, which we hope you can attend. Looking forward to seeing you, Rita & Laury.

Associate Pastor – German Worship

The Search Committee consisting of Hans J. Wiens, Wilhelm Harder and Franz Siemens have advertised the position for over one month on both the NUMC and MCEC web sites. They have received one application from Renate Dau Klaassen, including her resume of education, employment experience, Faith Story and Belief Statement.

The application including the proposed Job Description was reviewed by the Search Committee and they unanimously agreed to recommend Renate to Church Council and the congregation for the position of Associate Pastor – German Worship. This recommendation was reviewed by the German Worship Team who approve the recommendation of the Search Committee.

Renate Dau Klaassen will preach a sermon during the English Worship Service on August 27 to allow the entire congregation to become familiar with her. There will be a short Q & A with Renate after the worship service with questions prepared in advance by Church Council.

There will then be a Special Membership Meeting to discuss offering Renate the position and a congregational vote by ballot. Advance voting will be available through the office during the week of August 21-25 (see office hours).

Thank-you to all of our Scripture Readers! We are so blessed to have so many people participate in our worship services through the rotation of Scripture readers! **Thanks to everyone** who read for us as a part of the 2016-2017 schedule. Our next schedule is now being prepared and will be out in mid-September. If you do not ask for your name to be removed, you will be automatically included in this 2017-2018 schedule. To be removed from this list, please let the office know to remove your name from upcoming schedules. If you would like to be added to the Scripture Reader list, please contact the church office!! 😊

Recruiting Welcome Centre volunteers! We have a great team of volunteers who faithfully serve at the Welcome Centre each week. We are blessed with their smiles and friendship, as they share their gifts of hospitality with us, as well as newcomers. If anyone would like to join this team, or has questions about what is involved, please kindly speak with April in the church office. We would love to invite some new faces to the rotation! 😊 A new schedule will come out in September, so please connect with the office by Labour Day weekend to be included on it for the 2017-2018 schedule.

The Upper Room Renewal- If you wish to continue receiving your copy of The Upper Room devotional, please contact April in the office, as well, be sure to include any updates on the quantities that you require. If you would like to start subscribing, please contact April to add you to the group subscription. The cost for the 2018 subscription will be \$15 per subscription (one devotional every two months). Payment can be made at the Welcome Centre, or in the church office. Deadline is September 15th.

LIGHTHOUSE:

Lighthouse Curriculum from Menno Media has arrived- “Digging for Treasure” – Parables Revealed! A display is set up in the lower foyer. Feel free to browse the materials, sign up to help in areas, offer feedback, ask questions and pray for God’s leading for Lighthouse. Laurene Nickel (905)262-5166 or karlhnickel@yahoo.com

Our Current Sermon Series... **THE ESSENTIAL JESUS SERIES**

Matthew has devoted more space to the words of Jesus in his gospel than any of the other gospel writers. He has preserved for us at least five of Jesus’ major talks. The longest and best known of these talks is ‘The Sermon on the Mount’. Over the summer months, we will be exploring the foundational themes Jesus outlines in this teaching. Here He gives concise statements on the essentials for becoming the kind of person who lives with God’s kingdom values in mind. At the conclusion of this talk Jesus stated that all who would live by what He taught would have the benefit of understanding what is necessary to actually do what is right.

July 16 **“The Kind of Life God Blesses”** Matthew 5: 1-12

July 23 **“What Jesus says you’re good for”** Matthew 5: 13-20

August 6 **“How not to be Religious”** Matthew 21-48

August 13 **“Prayers that God Hears”** Matthew 6:1-18

August 20 **“What Jesus says about Ambition”** Matthew 6:19-34

August 27 *“Drawn Together by the Word”*

Genesis 11:1-9 & Acts 2:1-12

Message from Renate Klaassen (Candidating Message)

Special Membership Meeting

August 27, 2017, 11:30 am

Please join us after the Worship Service and Q & A with Renate Dau Klaassen for a Special Membership Meeting on August 27. We are expecting two votes to take place and encourage members to mark their calendars to attend.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Acceptance of Agenda
- 3) Appointment of Tellers Committee
- 4) Discussion and vote to hire "Associate Pastor – German Service"
 - Candidate – Renate Dau Klaassen
 - Part Time Position (15 – 18 sermons per year)
- 5) Proposal, discussion and vote to hire "Youth & Education Director"
 - Candidate - Ellery (Penner) Rauwerda
 - Part Time Position (20 hours per week)
 - Four month term: Sept 1 – Dec. 31, 2017
 - Ellery will provide leadership to the Youth program and be a resource person for the Junior Youth and Lighthouse programs
- 6) Other Business
- 7) Close

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA:

Assembly Registration is open! You are invited to register for the **October 13-15** special 2017 Assembly in Winnipeg: <http://www.cvent.com/d/c5q8ft>

Future Directions Update: Working Group Reports on various proposed re-organized ministries of MC Canada and Area Churches are now available at <http://futuredirectionsmc.ca/documents/>

Mike and Cheryl Nimz are Mennonite Church Canada partners in the United Kingdom. Working through Mennonite Trust (Mike) and as a volunteer (Cheryl), the Nimzes are helping to grow the Anabaptist Network in the U.K with dedication and exuberance. Pray that their ministry will strengthen relationships across the Anabaptist Network.

Please pray for the internally displaced people of Marawi, the capital of Lanao del Sur province in Philippines. Reports state that more than 300,000 people have been forced to leave their homes as a result of an ongoing siege. Mennonite Church Canada workers Dann and Joji Pantoja serve as peacebuilders in Philippines and they are planning to use specially designed colouring books to help children in the Marawi region recover from trauma.

CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY:

There is still time to apply to Canadian Mennonite University for 2017-2018 whether you want to take one course or start a degree. Applications accepted until September 1. Evening courses are available for audit or credit even for those not enrolled full time. Visit www.cmu.ca/apply or www.cmu.ca/timetable for details. Your prayers are welcome as a new academic year approaches!

Applications are being accepted for the 2017-18 Mennonite Diversity Award. Created by a generous donor with the support of Abundance Canada and Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, this award is designed to make an educational experience at Conrad Grebel University College accessible to Mennonite students from culturally diverse backgrounds. The scholarship offers up to \$10,000 to selected students who are, or whose parents are, new Canadians (since 1975) and attend a Mennonite church, or Aboriginal students who attend a Mennonite Church. The student will be living in Grebel's residence or enrolled in the Masters of Theological Studies or Masters of Peace and Conflict Studies program. See www.uwaterloo.ca/grebel/awards for more details and application process.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

New MCC Canada Executive Director It is with mixed emotions that, as of September 30th, we bid farewell to our beloved Executive Director, Rick Cober Bauman. Fortunately for MCC as a whole, Rick's next role will be as Executive Director of MCC Canada where he will continue to provide the warm, wise, and forward-thinking leadership that we have benefitted from here in Ontario.

Material Resources Shipments We have two upcoming shipments, potentially to the Middle East. Bars of hand soap, laundry soap and sewing kits have been requested. Please consider making a financial donation to help purchase these greatly needed supplies, or buy them and donate to Material Resources at 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener. To donate: call 519-745-8458 & specify that it's for soap/sewing kits. Questions? Call Carolyn Gray at 519-745-8458 ext. 234 or email carolyngray@mcco.ca.

Grow Hope: There are still acres available to sponsor through Grow Hope Niagara and raise funds to help hungry people around the world. \$400 per acre can become \$2,500 through government matching. More info at mcco.ca/grow-hope-niagara.

MCC Ontario is planning a shipment to Ukraine in mid-November and is urgently in need of hygiene kits, sewing kits and some kits we don't regularly collect (sewing kits, and men's and women's care kits). Please help families and individuals in Ukraine meet their basic needs. Find info about this shipment and the needed supplies on our MCC bulletin board.



Get your bikes and feet tuned up for a fantastically fun national church bike-athon on **Saturday, September 30th** in several locations across Canada. The Ride for Refuge is a family-friendly cycling/walking fundraiser that partners with churches and organizations who work with the displaced, vulnerable and exploited. Mennonite Church Canada and MCC Ontario are among the many teams in Eastern Canada that you can join or support. Be a part of the “Mennonite Church Canada” team in support of the Witness workers of your choice.

Register at <https://rideforrefuge.org/charity/mennonitechurchca> or contact Jason Martin at jmartin@mennonitechurch.ca or (226) 747-1833.

Or, in Ontario, you can join “The Real MCCO” in support of MCC Ontario Programs addressing poverty, helping refugees and newcomers, walking with Indigenous neighbours and bringing peace through restorative justice. Grab your friends and family for a great time. Register at <https://rideforrefuge.org/charity/mcco> or contact Katie via katiebuchnea@mcco.ca or 519-745-8458 x235.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of the ministries of Mennonite Church Canada and MCC Ontario!

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) receiving financial donations for forest fires in British Columbia. People in BC have already lost houses to the fires and we are planning for MDS volunteers to help in the recovery phase of this disaster. MDS is accepting financial donations for that recovery. For further updates on the MDS response and financial donations go to <https://mds.mennonite.net/> or call the MDS office at [1-866-261-1274](tel:1-866-261-1274).

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:



Pleasant Manor is raising funds for its Outdoor Beautification Project – sidewalks and benches to enhance the grounds for the benefit of tenants and residents. Please consider making a donation! See bulletin board for details, or contact Judy Willems, Director of Communications and Community Development at 905-934-3414, extension 1089.



Do you know a young person eager for adventure, learning, travel and friendship - all while exploring a life of following Jesus? Outtatown still has space available for 2017-2018!

Visit outtatown.com to learn more and apply.



MEDA BBQ- Friday August 25th, RSVP by August 18th. Please see the poster on the Community Bulletin board. The BBQ is a fund raiser for MEDA's Myanmar project.



Bethany Mennonite Church, is seeking an Associate Pastor of Youth and Family Ministries. Responsibilities include overseeing the youth ministries, and providing support to our Spiritual Formation and Mission Teams. This is a 3/4-time position beginning September, 2017. Applications will be reviewed as they arrive. To apply, or for a Job Description and Congregation Information Form, please contact pastoraltransitions@mcec.ca

Seeking Understanding: **Reading the Bible in Light of Same-Sex Relationships**

A workshop presented by Dan Epp-Tiessen

One of the reasons for conflict over same-sex relationships in the church is because advocates for different positions can marshal good biblical and theological evidence to support very different sides of the issue. Assuming that the Bible should play a central role in our discernment, this workshop will explore relevant biblical passages, different principles of biblical interpretation, and different ways of thinking theologically about the biblical texts and the issues at stake. The goal is to encourage respectful dialogue between different voices in the conversation that sometimes find it difficult to hear each other. Tickets on sale at Grace Mennonite Church, Vineland United Mennonite Church, Bethany Mennonite Church, and The First Mennonite Church until Sept. 15th!

Dan Epp-Tiessen has been teaching Bible (and a few other courses like Preaching, and Women and Men) at Canadian Mennonite University since 1998. He is a frequent guest in churches and at church conferences to preach and lead workshops. He hails from Leamington, Ontario where he grew up on a fruit and vegetable farm. Dan has been a pastor in Winnipeg and Kitchener and has served with Mennonite Central Committee in the Philippines. When not working he enjoys reading, running, biking, walking, gardening, and bird-watching. Dan is profoundly grateful for the privilege of being a husband, father, and grandfather, a member of Home St. Mennonite Church in Winnipeg, and for being a double cancer survivor.



Saturday, September 30th | 9:00am – 3:00pm
Grace Mennonite Church, 677 Niagara St., St. Catharines
Tickets: \$15 (includes coffee break & lunch)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (August 21st – August 27th)

Tuesday: 7:00 pm Spiritual Council Meeting

Wednesday: 7:00 pm Ladies Music & Fellowship

Sunday August 27th

10:00 am Worship Service – Message by Renate Klaassen,
Candidate for Associate Pastor: German Worship
position

11:00 am Q&A Session with Renate Klaassen following sermon

11:30 am Special Membership Meeting

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

Offering of August 13th : \$5,955.00

Budget	\$ 4,635.00	MCC General	\$0.00
Christian Witness	\$ 445.00	MCC Food	\$70.00
Menn. Ctr in Ukraine	\$200.00	MCC School Kits	\$140.00
		MCC Kits for Ukraine	\$ 60.00

Offering Focus – Our weekly budget requirement is \$8,260. 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, 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.

Office Hours This Week:

Monday: OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Wednesday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thursday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

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.

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.