

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

August 27th, 2017

Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.

Gathering

Kathy Rempel

Call to Worship, Congregational Life & Announcements

John Tiessen

Proclamation & Worship

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-4

“Ancient Words”

Scripture: Genesis 11:5-9

“By the Waters of Babylon” StJ #22

Scripture: Acts 2:1-4

“Holy Spirit Come with Power” HWB #26

Offering Focus- Christian Witness

Children’s Moment: “Thy Word is a lamp until my feet” Katrina Metsa

Scripture: Acts 2:5-12

“Speak Oh Lord”

Choir

“Drawn Together by the Word”

Renate Klaassen

Sending

“Joys are flowing” HWB #301

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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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.

JOYS & CONCERNS:

It is with sympathy that we share the passing of Jacob Froese, father of Gerry & Donna (Epp) Froese, on August 22, 2017. Jake was baptized and married to his wife Erna, here in our church. His funeral service was held on Saturday at Grace Mennonite Church in St. Catharines.

Please pray for Ernie Pries who has had a bad fall last week. He has just been released into a regular ward in the Niagara Falls Hospital, after an extensive stay in the ICU. Praise God for answered prayer! He will now require physiotherapy to improve standing and walking by himself. Thank-you kindly for your concern and prayers.

Please pray for Audrey Epp and her family, as Audrey's health continues to decline. May our precious Lord and Comforter embrace Audrey and the family with His peace that passes understanding and His love that knows no bounds. Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and pay them visits, and extend the peace of Christ as often as the Spirit lays it upon your heart to do so. It uplifts Audrey's spirit so, and is such an encouragement to the family.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

The Missions and Service committee would like to thank all the volunteers that helped at last Saturday's Peach festival. By all accounts the day was a great success; we were sold out by 2:30. Salsa and Jam sales were \$3,500. These proceeds will help fund a variety of Mission programs. Thanks again for everyone's efforts!

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 a.m. and 12:00 p.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.

Search Committee for Lead Pastor: By now you have probably noticed our advertisement in the Canadian Mennonite and the posting on our church website. Candidates have until the end of September to apply for the Lead Pastor position. In the meantime, the Search Committee has been working on a Congregational Information Form as recommended by MCEC as part of the process. The information on this form will give the candidate a good overall picture of our congregation, our theology and our facilities, as well as information about the surrounding community. We are also reviewing other helpful information from the conference and will begin planning the interview process with our next meeting. Our MCEC resource person is David Brubacher, currently half-time pastor at Grace. He comes with many years of pastoral and conference experience and his knowledge of this process has been very helpful. Some of you have been asking if we know how many candidates have applied. Right now, we don't know; but what we do know, is that the Lord is already preparing someone for our congregation. Thank you for your continued prayers and support! Feel free to contact anyone on the committee at any time. Ruth Willms, John Rempel, Joachim Dau, Erik Metsa, Becky Bartel, Becca Willms, Linda Friesen (Henry).

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 is preaching a sermon during the English Worship Service today, 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 has been made available through the office this past week, from August 21-25.

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 Sept. 15th.

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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

YOUTH POOL PARTY! The youth would like to invite the new Grade 9's to join them for a pool party! It will be held at the Willms residence at 890 Line 2. **7:30 pm Friday September 8th.**

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



Please pray for our graduates & post-secondary students as they embark upon new adventures or continue along in their quest of pursuing higher education:

- Elijah Finlay is entering his 2nd year of Psychology at Wilfrid Laurier University.
- Chris Friesen is entering his 1st year at Brock University majoring in History.
- Megan Friesen is continuing in her 4th year at Brock University in the Visual Arts program.
- Noah Janzen is starting his 4th year of Mathematical Physics at the University of Waterloo.
- Zachary Janzen is in his 3rd year of Electrical Apprenticeship in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
- Aliston Neufeld has graduated from Laura Secord high school and will be attending Brock University in September in the Accounting Co-op program.
- Danielle Redekopp has graduated from the Bachelor of Accounting program at Brock, with Honours, and is now currently enrolled in the Master of Accountancy program at Brock University.
- Victoria Redekopp has graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University with a Bachelor of Arts, Honours Communication with a Film Studies option.
- Hannah Regier has graduated from Eden high school and is now taking a gap year where she plans to travel.
- Matthew Riediger is entering his 4th year of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Guelph this September.
- Kendra Sawatzky continues in the Radiography program at McMaster University.
- Kathryn Wiens is continuing her work towards her PhD in Epidemiology at the University of Toronto.

Heartfelt congratulations go out to all of the recent graduates! Praise the Lord for the dedication and wisdom he bestowed upon you through your time of studies. May the Spirit prepare you and guide you as you continue along God's path. May God bless each of these individuals, listed here, and those in our congregation not listed here, who continue on as students, in their studies and pursuit of higher education, providing endurance, direction, and a never ending passion for learning.

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 DISASTER SERVICE:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Mennonite Disaster Service Response Constance Bay (Ottawa), ON - Repairing from May Flooding: MDS is starting to repair homes that were flooded this spring, assisting vulnerable families who need their basements or crawl spaces insulated and do not have insurance. Volunteers are needed in particular for insulating, some hanging and finishing of drywall, and carpentry. Related skills are desirable but not required. Accommodations will be available. Leadership & Weekly volunteers are needed. The project will start the week of 11 Sept, into Oct. Please consider volunteering by calling or emailing, Nick Hamm at 905-401-3990 or hammnicholas.mds@outlook.com

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA:

Assembly Registration is open! You are invited to register for the **October 13-15** special 2017 Assembly in Winnipeg. Discernment Documents are now available at www.futuredirectionsmc.ca. These documents share important background and proposals for the re-organization of our Five Area Churches and MC Canada. *Register for Special Assembly by September 8 and save \$\$.* Register online at <http://home.mennonitechurch.ca/winnipeg2017>.

We need your voices! Youth are wanted at the 2017 Special Delegate Assembly, held in Winnipeg from October 13-15. Emerging Voices Initiative (EVI) is partnering with Mennonite Church Canada to invite financial support available to any youth interested in attending the gathering, with no need to apply. EVI will also be providing youth programming related to the Future Directions process. For more information and to donate, visit <https://donate.mennonitechurch.ca/project/EVI-Youth2017>.

Pray for peace in our world. Horrific violence is displacing hundreds of thousands in the Congo, with many Mennonite congregations affected. Pray for the Mennonite leaders in Congo as well as other agencies abroad that are hard at work planning relief and peace efforts. A recent attack by gunmen in Burkina Faso has killed a number of people, including two Canadians. Pray for the Mennonite congregations there as they minister. May God's light speak into hearts of darkness.

Pray for congregational study groups who are engaging discussions about Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. May the Mennonite Church Canada trilogy of special Intotemak issues and the newly released Lifting Hearts Off the Ground: Declaring Indigenous Rights in Poetry help the conversation. Find them here: www.commonword.ca/go/1204 and www.commonword.ca/go/1211 respectively.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

MCC Ontario Annual General Meeting: Cath & Peter Woolner, former MCC Ethiopia Country Reps will join MCC Ontario staff to update you on MCC's work in Ontario and around the world. For more info, to view the business package and to RSVP, please go to mcco.ca/agm or call 519-745-8458. **Sat, Sept 30, 12-3 pm.** Community Room, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener

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!

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:



Niagara Life Centre has moved to 65 Lakeshore Road (formerly Lakeshore Baptist Church). Attend our Fundraising Banquet on **October 27** and hear about our new location and God's blueprint for Niagara Life Centre. For more info go to niagaralifecentre.ca or call 905-934-0021 to reserve your seat today.



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.



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

Varenecki Supper! Fundraiser for "Friends of the Mennonite Centre in Ukraine" on **Saturday October 28th at 6 p.m.** in Niagara United Mennonite Church auditorium. Tickets \$35 per person (\$20 receiptable) available from Linda Friesen (Henry) 905-684-2929 or George & Teresa Dyck (Vineland) 289-929-3211. A great evening of good food and singing, fun and fellowship, and updates on Ukraine and the Centre's projects. (If you would like to volunteer to help, please call or email me. Thank you, Linda Friesen.)

Y'AWESOME MEET & GREET

Grace Lutheran Church is proud to announce the launch of a new program Y'awesome... a Bible study and social group for young adults with special needs.

Y'AWESOME is:

YOUNG
ADULTS
WANTING
EXTRA
SPECTACULAR
OPPORTUNITIES
MEETING
EVERYONE



*Your Word is a lamp to my feet; a light on my path.
Psalm 119:105*

Please join us for our **OPEN HOUSE**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

213 LINWELL ROAD, ST. CATHARINES

- meet our volunteers
- tour the facilities
- enjoy snacks, music, games
- register to become a participant

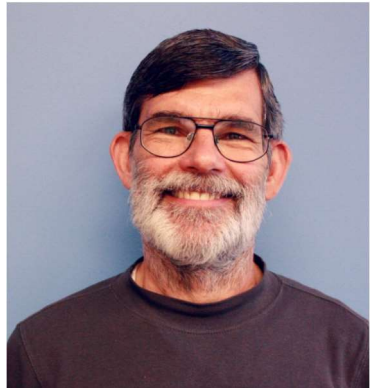
A safe group environment where our focus is building a closer relationship with God and each other through the study of His Word and sharing Jesus' love.

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 28th – September 3rd)

Wednesday: 7:00 pm Combined GLU/Worship Committee/Education Committee Meeting
8:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting
8:30 pm Education Committee Meeting (TBC)
Thursday: 7:00 pm Search Committee Meeting
Friday: 6:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal
(Josh Baergen & Marnie Becker)

Sunday, September 3rd

8:30 am German Choir Practice
9:00 am German Worship- Message by Joachim Dau
10:00 am Worship Service – Message by John Tiessen
3:00 pm Wedding Ceremony: Josh Baergen & Marnie Becker

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

Offering of August 20th : \$6,726.80

Budget	\$ 5,586.80	MCC General	\$,590.00
Christian Witness	\$ 480.00	MCC Food	\$ 50.00
		MCC Food Ethiopia	\$ 20.00

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.