

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

September 24th, 2017

“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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Our Lighthouse program, which is a time of fellowship and learning for those aged 4 years to Grade 6 is held each Sunday during the Worship Service. Those in Grade 7 and 8 are also welcome to attend. The children will be called to the front for the Children’s Moment and then released after that. Parents may pick up their children in the Education Wing at the end of the service.

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Our Current Sermon Series... **LIVE LIFE WITH US**

LIVE LIFE WITH US is an invitation that is commonly spoken in the context of the NUMC church community. What does that mean and how will we know if we are fulfilling this calling we have placed upon ourselves? In a series of messages designed to explore the theme of Live Life With Us, we will examine several directives that shaped the church community as it started out on its mission of advancing God’s kingdom through faith, hope and love.

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| September 10th | Make the Love Connection
<i>John 15:12-17</i> |
| September 17th | The Power of Everybody
<i>Romans 12:1-5</i> |
| September 24th | Please Pray for me
<i>Ephesians 1:15-23</i> |
| October 1st | Exposing the Imposter in Us
<i>2 Corinthians 3:7-18</i> |
| October 15th | Relational Intelligence
<i>1 Peter 3:8-12</i> |
| October 22nd | To Tell the Truth
<i>Ephesians 4:14-25</i> |
| October 29th | Serving and Sharing
<i>Galatians 5:13-15, Ephesians 5:21, Acts 4:32-35</i> |

JOYS & CONCERNS:

The flowers at the front of the church today are placed in loving memory of Gustel Friesen who passed away four years ago. She is dearly remembered by Franz, her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Heinz Dyck, son of Maria Dyck and brother to Erika Dyck and Hannelore Krugel and brother-in-law to Victor Krugel, passed away on Tuesday, September 19th. A memorial service will be held at Tallman Funeral Home in Vineland on Monday, September 25th at 11:00 am, with a time of visitation one hour prior to the service. Our prayers are with the family.

Zachary Janzen has requested his church membership be transferred to Nutana Park Mennonite Church in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. We wish him God's blessing as he develops roots in his new church home.

Dory & Craig Fowler are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Corey Fowler to Alicia Armstrong, daughter of Dr. Rose Tanous & Dr. Ken Armstrong. May God bless this couple as they prepare for marriage!

Please continue to pray for Vern Riediger, brother to Ron & Laury, who has been diagnosed with Lymphoma, and has begun chemotherapy treatment at Princess Margaret Hospital. Let us lift up Vern and the family to God in prayer and invite the Lord's healing power to bring restoration and recovery through the coming weeks and months.

Please continue to pray for the members of our church family who are suffering with sickness, require healing from injury, and who are in the need of encouragement from our prayers. We recognize that many individuals and families face hardships, physical and otherwise, which go unmentioned publicly. Please continue to share the love of Christ as the Spirit leads, and support one another in prayer to our Father in Heaven.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

Order of Worship – As part of a number of recent changes to our worship service the printed order of the worship service has been omitted from the bulletin. This is a new initiative from the Worship Team/Committee and is intended to encourage us as a church and congregation to be drawn into the presence of God. The intent is that those worshipping will stay in the moment of worship. We thank you for your patience as we experiment with this new initiative.

Senior Youth Sunset Photo Scavenger Hunt - Explore NOTL through a new lens! Points for pics and prizes for points are all a part of this awesome scavenger hunt adventure. Join us on **Friday, September 29th**. Meet at 7:30pm at church. All youth Grades 9-12 are welcome. See you there!!

UPDATE!! The bulletin boards in the front foyer, mailbox room, and NOTL-side entranceway have been updated and refreshed. Some have been relocated to allow for more appropriate space for their communication needs. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the new locations and materials posted on these boards. Please also remember to check these regularly as this is an alternative way that we communicate information to you from our partner organizations. Moving forward, there will be less repeated announcements in the bulletin, and instead they will be posted on the boards after first being announced in the bulletin. *Please remember to submit posters, information, or signage for the bulletin boards to the office or the organization rep to be posted on a bulletin board.

Vulnerable Sector Police Check Update (for Children & Youth Ministry Volunteers)!!! Anyone going in person to request their Vulnerable Sector Police Check at the 5700 Valleyway location in Niagara Falls has the option to have this check done for them while they wait!! **We strongly encourage any volunteer who has not yet filed for their clearance to please do so in this manner** to save the two month backlog that has accumulated by filing online or by going to the other locations (St. Catharines station, etc.). **Since the education ministry year is now underway, we are anxious to receive these clearances ASAP.** For further details, please contact April in the church office.

Offering of September 10th: \$6,065.15			
Budget	\$ 4,795.15	MCC General	\$ 335.00
Christian Witness	\$ 295.00	MCC Hurricane Relief	\$ 50.00
Mennonite Cntr Ukraine	\$ 60.00	MCC Africa	\$ 300.00
		MCC Food	\$ 230.00
Offering of September 17th: \$10,077.86			
Budget	\$ 8,057.86	MCC General	\$ 1,550.00
Christian Witness	\$ 320.00	MCC Food	\$ 130.00
Mennonite Cntr Ukraine	\$ 20.00		

Offering Focus – Our weekly budget requirement is \$8,260. In addition to your budget commitment, this month we encourage your support of MCC. Donations can be directed to their overall operations (where most are needed), or you can specify specific projects such as food for the hungry, school or other relief kits, Generations at Risk (HIV/AIDS) or disaster relief. Please mark your envelope accordingly. Any church donations not allocated to a specific cause will be directed to our budget.

MENNONITE CHURCH EASTERN CANADA:

Future Directions: Covenant New – Update to Congregations: In October, delegates to the MC Canada Special Assembly in Winnipeg will be asked to approve the Future Directions: Covenant New proposal for re-visioning our denominational structure. Immediately following the Assembly, MCEC is holding a series of regional meetings to introduce and review the actions taken at the Assembly. An update will be provided on the decisions made at the Assembly and their implications for MCEC, congregations and the future of MC Canada Witness initiatives. MCEC is asking that pastors, council chairs, treasurers, other church leaders and interested individuals to attend. This is your opportunity as leaders to be informed and to support the work of the church. Together, we want to collaborate with how God is calling us to shape the church for mission and ministry in the world today. Please join together with David Martin, Executive Minister of MCEC, for this important update and how congregations can engage with and support the regional and nationwide ministries of the church. **Wednesday, November 1st @ 7:00 pm @ The First Mennonite Church, 3557 Rittenhouse Rd, Vineland.** *This information is also available on our community bulletin board.*

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA:

A rolling fast for Indigenous Rights began on September 13, 2017 to raise awareness and support for Bill C-262 - legislation that will begin harmonizing Canada's laws with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Pray for strength for the fasters as they walk with Indigenous peoples in our journey toward reconciliation. Find out how you can participate at <http://pfir.ca/fast-for-indigenous-human-rights/>.

Chew on This! Join Citizens for Public Justice in Chew on This! our annual fall anti-poverty campaign. Each year, on October 17, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, volunteers across Canada hand out Chew on This! lunch bags containing a food item, a magnet, and a postcard directed to the federal government. This year, we are focused on making sure the federal government hears the voices of people calling for a comprehensive national anti-poverty strategy. To organize a Chew on This! event or for more information, go to dignityforall.ca/chew-on-this or contact Darlene O'Leary at darlene@cpj.ca.

Please pray for peace in Philippines. A recent report from Peace Church Philippines, led by Mennonite Church Canada Witness Workers Darnell and Christina Barkman, indicates that more than 9,000 Filipinos have been killed in President Duterte's war on drugs. Meanwhile, the siege in Marawi continues (see <http://news.mennonitechurch.ca/labelling-therapy-traumatized-children-marawi> for more information), as does Martial Law in Mindanao, where Witness Workers Dann and Joji Pantoja are situated.

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:

A response to the Winsor, ON Flooding has been organized. For more information, please see the MDS bulletin board in the foyer.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

Refugee Sponsorship: A Lunch and Listen Event Bring your own lunch or watch online as MCC's refugee sponsorship team shares news and stories about the refugee sponsorship program and opportunities for churches, communities groups, neighbourhood associations or groups of friends to get involved. Go to mcco.ca/events for more info and to watch live. **Tuesday, Sept 26 @ 12 pm**, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener

MCC Ontario Annual General Meeting 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

MCC Response to Hurricane Irma in Haiti and Cuba MCC is responding to the devastation of Hurricane Irma in Haiti and Cuba. Please join us in addressing the suffering caused by this disaster. Donate online at mcco.ca/hurricane-irma, by calling 519-745-8458 or dropping by one of our thrift stores or offices. See poster on the MCC bulletin board.

South Asia Flooding MCC is providing relief assistance in Nepal, India and Bangladesh after two weeks of severe monsoon rains displaced more than 1.7 million people and killed 1,246 in the region. We are working with partners to provide emergency food, water, tarps, mosquito nets and hygiene kits to those affected. MCC welcomes your support for our relief work in the area at mcco.ca/south-asia

Congo Emergency Assistance Armed conflict in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has displaced 1.4 million people, including 8,000 Mennonites. A Congolese assessment team visited this summer and found a severe lack of food and increasing malnutrition. Your gift of money will help provide food, household items and shelter supplies. Make your donation online at mcco.ca/congo-relief. by phone, 519-745-8458 or mail cheques to MCC, 203-50 Kent Ave, Kitchener, ON N2G 3R1

Ukraine Shipment Urgent Needs In early November, MCC will be sending a shipment to the Ukraine and urgently needs bed sheets, men's and women's prisoner care kits, sewing kits, infant care kits, bath soap, laundry soap and funds to purchase toothpaste and fabric. More info available at mcco.ca/ukraine-shipment or by calling Wendy Cotter at 519-745-8458 ext 248.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

Please check out our community bulletin board (lower front foyer outside the sanctuary) to stay current on the community events that are being promoted within the church. These posters change often and this is the best way to stay current on what is happening in your community!

Last week for tickets! Seeking Understanding: Reading the Bible in light of same sex relationships -- **Saturday, September 30th -- 9:00 am -- 3:00 pm**, Grace Mennonite Church, St. Catharines. Seminar presenter: Dan Epp-Tiessen, professor of Bible at Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg. Cost -- \$15, includes coffee break & lunch. Tickets can be purchased through Grace Mennonite Church, The First Mennonite Church, Vineland UM Church, & Bethany Mennonite Church.

Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario Fall Meeting: "Celebrating a Century of Mennonite Sewing Circles in Ontario". Meeting **October 14 at 2:00 pm**, in the Community Room, 50 Kent Avenue, Kitchener. Come hear the history and personal reminiscences. A tour of Mennonite Central Committee Ontario's Material Resources operations will follow. For more information check our <http://www.mhso.org/content/celebrating-century-mennonite-sewing-circles-ontario> or contact Bethany Leis 519-568-8086.

The World Remembers: 1914-1918. Every day from **September 25-November 11**, the names of 661,818 soldiers and nurses on all sides of the First World War killed in 1917 will be displayed at more than 60 locations around the world. The commemoration is a unique expression of remembrance, reconciliation and education, and shows the enormous human cost of the war. The Mennonite Archives of Ontario Gallery (3rd floor, Conrad Grebel University College) will be one of these display locations. The Gallery is also the location of the exhibit "**Sites of Nonresistance: Ontario Mennonites and the First World War.**" www.uwaterloo.ca/grebel/nonresistance

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (September 25th – October 1st)

Monday: 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study
7:30 pm Niagara Community Male Chorus Practice
Tuesday: 9:00 am Women in Service Quilting
Wednesday: 6:30 pm Pioneer Club
Thursday: 7:00 pm Praise & Worship Practice
Friday: 7:30 pm Youth – Photo Scavenger Hunt, meet @ NUMC

Sunday, October 1st

8:45 am Praise & Worship Practice
9:45 am Choir Practice
10:45 am Worship Service – Message by David Lewis

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

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.

Church Contacts:

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

Intentional Interim Pastor: David Lewis dave@redbrickchurch.ca

Youth & Education Director: Ellery Rauwerda ellery@redbrickchurch.ca

Office Administrator: April Michon office@redbrickchurch.ca