

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

Thanksgiving Sunday ~ October 8th, 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 3 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.

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.

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> |

Gathering
Congregational Life
Worship in Song
Children's Moment

Marlene Borzychowski
Joachim Dau
Choir
Ramona Neufeld

Children exit for Lighthouse

Offering

Offering Focus – see financial section

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

Linda Pankratz

“How much is enough?”

John Tiessen

(Ecclesiastes 5:13, Matthew 6:19, Philippians 4:19,
2 Corinthians 9:8, Matthew 7:9-11, Psalm 37:4)

Sending

JOYS & CONCERNS:

Please pray for our delegates, Patricia Regier & Ellery Rauwerda, who will be attending the Special National Church Assembly this week from October 13-15th. May the Lord bless their experience in Winnipeg and let it be a time of deep connection with others of our faith.

Tuesday October 10th is World Mental Health Day. Please pray for all of our brothers & sisters who experience mental health issues themselves or in their families. Pray also that we ourselves develop a greater understanding and ability to offer support to those around us. May our Father in Heaven help us to create a world that is kind and loving to all of his children. Please see the resource insert in today's bulletin.

Please continue to pray for Vern Riediger, brother to Ron & Laury, as he prepares for his next round of chemotherapy. May he experience the peace and hope of Jesus during this time.

Thank-you to Dick & Marlene Heidebrecht for the wonderful harvest displays found in the sanctuary, foyer & outside that we get to enjoy today and for the rest of the month. Thank-you for sharing your creativity and blessing us with your special gift! ☺

Please boldly lift one another in prayer to our God in Heaven. Today we come, gathering together with thankfulness on our minds, with gratitude on our lips, with our arms outstretched with bountiful harvest, and offering. We praise God today for all he has done for us, all of the blessings we recognize and take the time to give thanks for, though we know we do not see it every day, and not everyone here sees it even today. In our deepest pains, in our wandering, in our suffering, we may not always find the voices we need to pray, or even to speak to one another. As a church family, let us stand in the gap for each other, and pray for those we know of who need prayer.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

Office Hours Notice- Please note that the church will be closed tomorrow for Thanksgiving and will reopen on Tuesday morning at 9:00 am.

Vacation Notice- Jeff & Anita Friesen are enjoying a vacation from Oct. 6-16th. Karl & Laurene Nickel are covering for them Oct 10-16th. Please see the church office with any concerns as per usual. Thanks.

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 submit items to be posted to the office or the organization rep to be posted on the appropriate bulletin board.

Senior Youth Bananarama! One banana. One church. One bananarama adventure! Join us on **Friday, October 13 at 7:30PM** to explore the church in a new and unforgettable way. Banana splits to follow. See you there!

Seniors Time Out Tea! ALL seniors are invited and welcome to attend the next Seniors' Time Out Tea that will be held here at Niagara UM in the Auditorium on **Sunday, October 22nd at 3:30pm**.

TRIP to see the operetta "Candide" by Leonard Bernstein on Friday, January 5, 2018, in Toronto. (Bus trip, dinner, and show). Call Martha Bartel, 905-468-7029, to reserve your seat.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

NEW PRICE!! MCC lawn signs welcoming new Canadians are available at the Welcome Centre. In 3 languages, the sign reads, "No matter where you are from, we are glad you're our neighbour." These signs are available at our Welcome Centre for **\$5 each** (which includes the "H stake" for your lawn).

Share the Joy of Giving We have received this year's MCC Christmas giving catalogue. Please see the table in the mailbox room to view these booklets and support the MCC Christmas giving program, or it is also available online at: <https://mcccanada.ca/christmas>. You may have also received it in your most recent edition of The Canadian Mennonite.

If you like shopping as well as helping people, here is an opportunity for you: For the planned shipment of relief goods to the Ukraine in November, MCC still needs supplies for various kits, including newly developed women's and men's "care kits". These are for a special request by partner agencies supporting orphans and prisoners in that country. Sample kits are on display in the downstairs foyer, where you can also pick up a complete list of the items needed. We have a collection box out. If you would like to bring MCC school kits, sewing kits, or hygiene kits, we will deliver them to MCC, too.

To stay fully informed of all the initiatives, opportunities, and projects that MCC has on the go, please consider subscribing directly to their monthly e-newsletter, which will consist of an email delivered to your inbox once per month. Alternatively, you can also like them on Facebook, view them on Instagram, follow them on Twitter, or subscribe to them on YouTube. **We strongly encourage you to do this so that you do not miss out on any events or news that is important to you!** If you require assistance setting yourself up with this, please contact April, and she will be happy to help you.

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!

InfoHealth lecture at the NOTL Public Library on **Wed. Oct. 11 at 1:00 pm** will be on "Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) Management." The presentation and Q&A session will be conducted by medical students of McMaster University, Niagara Campus. For more information see the link: <https://notlpubliclibrary.org/infohealth>.

To Be List

for when you can offer mental health support

- 1. Be a Listener** – take the time to be quiet and listen when someone shares their experiences with you.

“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry”
James 1:19 (NIV)

- 2. Be Open** – it takes courage for someone to share their journey with mental illness. Be open and non-judgmental as you listen.

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Matthew 7:1-2 (NIV)

- 3. Be a Friend** – put yourself in the shoes of the person: how would you like someone to be there for you? (eg. make meals, baby-sit, go for a walk, go fishing, other practical support)

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:8-10 (NIV)

- 4. Be Patient** – this is a journey, with hills and valleys. Celebrate the successes, be sensitive to the challenges.

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

- 5. Be an Advocate** – for those you support, in our community and also by presenting your requests to God.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

To Be List

for when you need mental health support

- 1. Be Willing** – to ask for help from your friends, family, community and professionals when you need it.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” Matthew 7:7 (NIV)

- 2. Be Courageous** – it takes a lot of courage to be vulnerable but courage also multiplies: when you share your story, you give others the courage to share theirs.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

- 3. Be Honest** – sharing your reality will allow you and others to better understand the challenges you face and enables others to offer their help when you need it.

“And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:32 (NIV)

- 4. Be Self-Aware** – know what your strengths and weaknesses are and find ways to use your skills in your community.

“For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.” Romans 12:3 (NIV)

- 5. Be Content** – give yourself grace, keep track of and appreciate the little steps you take toward wellness day by day.

“... for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.” Philippians 4:11 (NIV)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (October 9th – October 15th)

Monday: THANKSGIVING DAY – OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday: 9:00 am Women in Service - Quilting
7:00 pm Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday: 6:30 pm Pioneer Club
7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Thursday: 7:00 pm Adventsfeier Choir Practice
7:00 pm Praise & Worship Practice

Friday: 7:30 pm Youth – Bananarama

Sunday, October 15th

9:20 am German Choir Practice

9:45 am Choir Practice

9:50 am German Worship Service- Message by Renate Klaassen

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.

Offering of October 1st : \$10,112.01

Budget	\$ 7,262.01	MCC General	\$ 1,825.00
Christian Witness	\$ 545.00	MCC Hurricane Relief	\$ 150.00
Menn Disaster Service	\$ 150.00	MCC School Kits	\$ 100.00
		MCC Food	\$ 80.00

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.

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.