

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

March 4, 2018

“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 glassed-in room behind the sanctuary where you may sit with your child and follow along in 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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Current Sermon Series ... **FAITH FIGURES**

Faith Figures is a mini series of sermons Pastor Dave will begin this Sunday. Today and the next two weeks, we will explore the stories of persons who lived by the belief that the root choice in life is to trust at all times that God was with them and would give them what they most needed. From these individuals we discover how to experience the absolute, total, even ruthless trust in God as One who is reliable, honourable and praiseworthy.

March 2	“Vintage Faith”	Hebrews 11:1-10
March 11	“Faith and the ‘No Fear Factor’”	Joshua 14:6-14
March 18	“A Legacy of Faith”	Ruth 1:1-18
March 25	Palm Sunday	
March 30	Good Friday	
April 1	Easter- “Power to Rise Up”	John 20:1-10

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Prelude	Kathy Rempel
Congregational Life	Joachim Dau
Worship in Song	Choir
Children’s Moment	Kathy Rempel

Children exit for Lighthouse

Offering

Offering Focus – see financial section

Scripture Reading	Becca Willms
(Hebrews 11:1-10)	

“Vintage Faith”	Pastor David Lewis
Sending	Pastor David Lewis

German Worship Service - 9:50 am

Andachtsleiter: Renate Dau Klaassen — Psalm 95: 6-8a

Orgelspiel: Giesela Doerwald

Lied: GB#257 "Komm zum Kreuz mit deinen Lasten"

Chorlied

Opfergaben Fokus: Christian Witness

Lied: GB#258 "Der Himmel steht offen"

Chorlied

Schriftwort: Johannes 10,30-42

Botschaft: "Feindschaft der Juden" - Ramona Neufeld

Lied: GB #419 “Ach, bleib mit deiner Gnade bei uns“ (V. 1 u. 2)

JOYS & CONCERNS:

Please continue to pray for Martha Wiens as she continues healing from her painful car accident injuries and stroke at Shaver hospital. Martha and her family are so deeply thankful for the prayers, cards, emails and well wishes being sent for her. Please continue to pray for relief from pain for her, patience for her in this long road ahead, and strength for her body as she is busy focusing on her demanding rehab schedule right now. Thank-you for lifting her to our Lord and Healer in prayer.

Alex and Sue Fast ask for prayers for their granddaughter Bailey Williams. Bailey was rushed into emergency surgery on Friday morning. The family thanks everyone for their thoughts and prayers at this time.

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers for healing for my recent knee replacement surgery. The surgery went well, now the healing begins. Both knees are now bionic, so hopefully no more surgery for me. Thank you to Kaethe and Rita for bringing the delicious meal, and the wonderful visit. Larry and I really enjoyed not having to cook. Therapy is underway and hopefully I can return to work Monday. Your love and support means so much to Larry and I. -Luanne Kulchar

Please continue to pray for: Audrey Epp & Rosemary (Rhodie) Marshall, as well as those who need our prayers within our church family and wider community, remembering that our Father in Heaven knows the deepest needs of all our hearts at all times. Let us lift one another to him in prayer.

YOUTH:

Sr. Youth - No youth on March 9th and 16th due to March Break.

Jr. Youth – Next activity will be on **Saturday March 24th at 5 p.m.** The youth will be having dinner at the home of Dave and Martha Dizio. Their home is located at 19 Beau Valley Dr., St. Catharines. Watch your email for more details in early March.

Prospective students and parents are invited to Campus Visit Day at CMU on March 9 and Open House on March 27th. Activities include campus and residence tours, attending university classes, a meeting for parents with enrolment staff, financial aid presentation, and meeting faculty. For more information see cmu.ca/campusvisit.

Come to a Campus Visit Day at Redeemer University College on **March 12**, or book a personalized tour to get a taste of what Redeemer is all about. Learn more and register at www.redeemer.ca/visit.

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

2017 Donation Tax Receipts are in the church mailboxes.

The Upper Room March/April issues have arrived. Please check your mailbox to collect your issue if you were not able to collect it last week.

Online Streaming Issues- It was brought to our attention this week that the online sermons were not working properly. There were updates done by our provider, causing some glitches for which they have apologized and repaired. Our AV team has looked into this for us and hopes to have everything smoothed out for us for this Sunday. We thank everyone for your patience and understanding.

Please help us celebrate Franz Friesen's (Opa's) 90th birthday. His children will be hosting an open house **Saturday March 10th from 1-4 pm** at the NOTL Community Centre Simpson's Pharmacy room at 14 Anderson Lane, NOTL, best wishes only.

Office Closed: Please note that the office will be closed this week on Wednesday. It will reopen on Thursday.

IMMEDIATE VOLUNTEER REQUIRED: During this time while we are borrowing Bethany's auditorium for our Funeral Fellowship meals, we need **one volunteer to please step forward**. We require someone operate the chair lift at Bethany for people with mobility issues attending the fellowship meal. The minimal orientation required for this role will be provided. If you would be willing to help with this role in this temporary time that we are without our basement, **please let our church office know ASAP.**

Canadian Mennonite Subscriptions: All who attend Niagara United Mennonite Church may receive a subscription to *Canadian Mennonite*. The biweekly magazine is delivered in print, by email, or both. Subscriptions are paid for collectively through Niagara United Mennonite Church. To start a new subscription, add digital delivery to an existing print subscription, or switch to digital-only, please contact the church office by March 18. For any other questions, please also contact the office.

Time Change Notice! Please remember to set your clocks ahead next Saturday so that you don't miss church on Sunday. Next weekend Daylight Savings Time begins. ☺

NIAGARA UM FINANCIALS:

Offering of February 25th: \$ 6,192.75

Budget	\$ 5,272.75	MCC General	\$ 630.00
Christian Witness	\$ 260.00	MCC Food	\$ 30.00

Offering Focus – Our weekly budget requirement is \$7,654. 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.

MENNONITE CHURCH EASTERN CANADA:

Please pray for Pastors Yoel Masyawong and Jehu Lian who are travelling in Myanmar on a teaching and preaching trip. Pray for safety and strength as they share with their brothers and sisters in Myanmar. Pray also for Norm Dyck, MCEC Mission Engagement Minister, whose plans changed and was unable to travel with them.

Each week MCEC staff pray for one of the faith communities within our MCEC community of congregations. We invite you to join us in praying this week for **Westview Christian Fellowship** in Hamilton, ON.

MCEC Annual Church Gathering :Connected: Striving side by side with one mind *"Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel."* *Philippians 1:27* Mark your calendars. Registration will open in the next few weeks. All are welcome. **April 27 – 28th** @ Redeemer University College, Ancaster. Please contact April in the church office if you would like to be registered as an NUMC church delegate.

Pray for our sister Regional Church - Mennonite Church Manitoba who are meeting together this weekend, as they focus on "Mission: Living into our Call."

Pray also for our sister Regional Church - Mennonite Church Saskatchewan who are meeting together next weekend, March 9 - 10 as they focus on their theme, "God is Doing a New Thing."

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

Send us your comforters! We are loading a container destined for Jordan on March 29 and need another 1500 comforters. Please send us your completed comforters as soon as possible. Comforters can be dropped off at our Kitchener warehouse, your local thrift shop or regional office. Drop off locations are listed at mcco.ca/kits. Thank you for all your efforts in producing these expressions of love for our friends around the world!

We are organizing a BVOR Sponsorship Conference at Conrad Grebel University College on **April 14, 2018**. The conference will bring key partners together to reflect on the past three years of refugee sponsorship, understand the current reality of refugees and inspire participation in the BVOR program. We need prayer for a successful conference that will inspire participants to action that will transform lives.

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:

Mennonite Disaster Service Update on the Grand River and Thames River Flooding: On Mon, 26 Feb 2018, MDS ON Unit executive members toured the recently flooded areas along the Grand and Thames Rivers and met with Emergency Management officials along the way including Haldimand and Brant Counties and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. MDS ON is also part of the NGO Alliance of ON and has been part of the daily conference calls hosted by the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) concerning these floods. The full extent of damage will not be known for a while, as the municipalities enter the Recovery Phase in the next couple of weeks. This will give MDS a better understanding where our help is needed. If you have any questions or referrals please call ON Unit Secretary, Nick Hamm at 905-401-3990 or email hammnicholas.mds@outlook.com.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

Anabaptist Heritage Concert - Sunday, March 4, 7:00 pm, at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church. Freewill offering in support of MCC.

Learn about MEDA's Nigeria WAY Project--Everyone is welcome at MEDA Niagara's next breakfast **Tuesday, March 20, 7:30-8:30am** at Sweets Café (600 Ontario St, St Catharines). Chom Bagu, Field Project Manager of MEDA's Youth Entrepreneurship and Women's Empowerment (WAY) project in Nigeria, will be joining us. \$10 at the door. RSVP by March 16 to maria.h.klassen@gmail.com.

Volunteer Cooks Urgently Needed for Young and Pregnant Niagara (YPN) Program Niagara Life Centre Counselling urgently needs volunteer cooks for our YPN program. The program meets once a week on Thursday evenings from 4:30-6:30 pm. The volunteer prepares a cost effective, nutritious meal for 10 people. The meal can be prepared in our big kitchen or at your home. The meal needs to be ready and at the Centre by 4:00pm. NLC pays for the meal costs. This could be done on a rotational schedule if we get a favorable response. Thanks for considering. For further questions, please call Rita at 905-934-0021 or email rita@niagaralifecentre.ca.

Friendship Dinner: Grantham Mennonite Brethren Church is hosting Far East Broadcasting Canada on Friday, March 9th, who are offering their annual complimentary meal. Presenter is Tri Dang of Vietnam. Please call by Monday, March 5th to reserve your spot at this free meal which includes chicken breast, potato and vegetables, salad and your choice of dessert: pie or cake. See poster on the community board for more details.

PLEASANT MANOR Spring Tea and Bake Sale Pleasant Manor Auxiliary

Our annual Spring Tea and Bake sale will be held on **Saturday, March 24, from 10am to 11:30am**. We would appreciate contributions of baked goods from anyone who would like to bake for this occasion. Baked goods could include items such as bread, meat buns, zwiebak, squares, pies and of course Paska. Everyone enjoys purchasing these delicious goodies.

The bake sale will be held in the Pleasant Manor Chapel and in the Heritage Place Chapel. We will also have a Tea Room in the Pleasant Manor Retirement Village dining room. Come enjoy the fellowship over a cup of tea.

Baked goods and crafts can be dropped off for the bake sale in the Pleasant Manor Chapel on **Friday, March 23rd between 7 and 8 pm**.

We look forward to an enjoyable time with you!

-The Pleasant Manor Auxiliary

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (March 5th – March 11th)

Monday: 7:30 pm Niagara Male Chorus Practice

Tuesday: 9:30 am MOPS

7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

7:00 pm Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday: OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 pm Pioneer Club

Thursday: 7:00 pm Praise & Worship Practice

8:30 pm Springfest Meeting

Sunday, March 11th - Daylight Savings Time Begins

9:45 am Choir Practice – 3rd floor of education wing

9:45 am Baptism Class- Board Room

10:20 am Worship Team Meeting – Room #30 on the 3rd floor

10:45 am Worship Service – Message by Pastor David Lewis
& Child Dedication. No lighthouse.

**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, 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.