

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

April 8th, 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 Mini Series ...The Spirit Within

April 8 **On a Wing and a Prayer: Spiritual Guidance for Powerful Praying** Romans 8:12-16, 26-30

April 15 **Empowered: Living in the Fullness of the Spirit** Ephesians 5:15-21

JOYS & CONCERNS:

Congratulations!! Josh and Anysa Neal are thrilled to announce the arrival of Emery Ursula Anysa Neal, born March 13th 2018 weighing 8lbs 7oz. She is little sister to Kaliana. 20th great grandchild to Gerhard and Ursula Hummel. Granddaughter to Chuck & Tatjana McShane and Stephen & Robin Neal.

Please pray for Elizabeth Janzen, who is back in St. Catharines General Hospital with health issues. May our Risen Lord be her strength and healer.

Please continue to pray for: Audrey Epp, Susan Kaye, Rosemary (Rhodie) Marshall, Irene Penner & Martha Wiens, as well as others who may need our prayers. Let us be a praying community where we tend to one another as we lift one another to him in prayer.

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Prelude	Marlene Borzychowski
Congregational Life	Joachim Dau
Worship in Song	Special Music
Offering	

Offering Focus – see financial section

Scripture Reading	Gunnar Doerwald
	(John 20:1-10)
“Power to Rise Up”	Pastor David Lewis
Sending	Pastor David Lewis

German Worship Service — 9:50 a.m.

Andachtsleiter: Hans Jürgen Wiens – Grusswort: Psalm 118:22-24

Orgelspiel:

Lied: GB #100 “Du Sonne der Gerechtigkeit”

Chorlied

Opfergaben Fokus: MCC

Lied: GB #103 - “Jesus lebt, mit ihm auch ich!” (V. 1,2 u. 4)

Chorlied

Schriftwort: Apostelgeschichte 10:34-43.

Botschaft: “Er is WAHRHAFTIG auferstanden!”- Pastor Renate Dau

Klassen

Lied: GB #103 - “Jesus lebt, mit ihm auch ich!” (V. 5 u. 6)

WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:

Youth Progressive Supper! Come out this **Friday, April 6th** for a fun evening of food and fellowship! We are so grateful for everyone who has offered to host us for a meal! Both senior and junior youth are invited. We will be meeting at the church for 6:20pm. If you haven't already please let Kendra Sawatzky know if you plan to attend so we can ensure transportation. We hope to see everyone out!

Senior Youth! Come out this Friday to support our friends at the Royal Elite International Academy as they put on a play! It is called *“This is a Test”*. Please meet at the Academy (1875 Niagara Stone Road) for **6:45pm**, cost is free. We hope to see everyone out!

Pastor Lewis' last day is next Sunday, April 15. We are planning a light lunch in our foyer after the service where we will have finger foods and the chance to say our farewells to Dave and Janie. The sandwiches will be provided. If you would like to bring squares or cookies please make sure they are cut up and ready to eat.

75th Anniversary Commemorative Cookbooks- we still have copies of this amazing cook book sharing potluck favourites, delicious desserts and family dinner specialties. Only \$20 a book, please see the display in the foyer of the church.

Wholeness Through Christ (WTC) is a scripturally-based, Spirit-led ministry to the whole person. As Jesus came to bring healing, forgiveness, freedom and release, WTC gently ministers these elements of God's love to believers who earnestly desire to be free from all that hinders. You may have been introduced to these principles when we hosted some of the WTC team here at our church a few years ago, or when these principles were taught during sermon series several years ago. Perhaps, you've only heard "Wholeness" mentioned here and there by those in the church who have been to the course, or you've not heard anything about it until now. Several in our church have participated in this ministry and have experienced great freedom. There is an upcoming course happening right here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, **June 4-8th**! If you are considering applying for it, there are funds available for those who require access to them through Spiritual Council. WTC requests that it would be helpful for them to know if you are interested in applying, as they need to make decisions very soon about events going forward, as if there are insufficient applications, events will be cancelled. Please check out information on courses at: <http://wholenessthroughchrist.com/> and see pamphlets at our Welcome Centre. You may also connect with Rita Epp for information about WTC, or talk to John Tiessen about funding.

Notes from the Search Committee:

The Search Committee has met three times thus far into 2018: January 25th, February 20th and March 20th.

The meeting of January 25th, our first after the candidating weekend of December 17, was a time of review, reassessing and reflection on the outcome of the membership vote. Although the committee felt a deep sense of disappointment with the outcome, we agreed that we were ready to move forward and continue on with the task of finding a new Lead Pastor for our congregation.

To keep our focus, we have once again studied the four Transitional Work Group Summaries, our congregational survey results, and also the Pastoral Profile to which potential candidates respond with their notice of interest in the position.

This notice of interest is made directly to MCEC. From there, the application process begins. The resulting application is actually a package of information called Ministerial Leadership Information (MLI) consisting of education summaries, work history, charts rating various skills, summaries by references, a reference list, a section covering theology and beliefs from both an Anabaptist perspective and a personal perspective, a section covering questions based on the Mennonite “Vision: Healing and Hope Statement” and “Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective”, and lastly, a section on the applicant’s personal faith journey.

In 2017, MCEC received two notices of interest for the position of Lead Pastor at NUMC and the MLIs were forwarded to the Search Committee. We held meet-and-greets with both applicants and one was presented to the congregation in December 2017. Some of you have asked about the other application, if that person was an option to follow up on, and we have to answer no, that is not an option.

Where is the Holy Spirit leading us? Are we open to the leading of the Holy Spirit? With these two questions uppermost in our thoughts, we are in the very early and preliminary stages of considering an application package received at the beginning of February. At this point in the process, we are discussing several “next steps”, but it’s too early yet to be clear on where this will take us. We will keep you updated.

We ask that you pray for us, that nothing will intrude on the thoughts and vision that the Lord has before us with this task of finding a Lead Pastor. And we ask for your patience, believing that God answers prayer, but perhaps not always according to our timeline or even in the way we might think.

We covet the prayers of the congregation—it is your prayers and faith in God that will send us a Pastor that will be for us, a Pastor who will be what we need at this time and make this search a success.

It is more important now than ever before that we as a congregation undertake a commitment to pray for the Lord’s presence and leading for NUMC. He has a beautiful plan for us. Let’s be ready for it!

With blessings, The Search Committee: Ruth Willms, Joachim Dau, Becky Bartel, Rebecca Willms, Jeff Friesen, Erik Metsa, Linda Friesen

NIAGARA UM FINANCIALS:

Offering of March 30th: \$ 3,318.00			
Budget	\$ 2,598.00	M.C.C.	\$ 50.00
Christian Witness	\$ 20.00	MCC - Food	\$ 270.00
Deacon's Fund	\$ 380.00		
Offering of April 1st: \$ 9,062.00			
Budget	\$ 7,327.00	M.C.C.	\$ 950.00
Christian Witness	\$ 660.00	MCC - Food	\$ 20.00
Capital Fund	\$ 75.00	MDS	\$20.00
Refugee Sponsorship	\$ 10.00		

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

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 is now open. All are welcome. **April 27 – 28th** @ Redeemer University College, Ancaster.

Youth & Young Adults Engaging in ACG: ACG 101: Are there youth or young adults in your congregation who will be attending? Join Matt, Sara and Steph as they navigate the weekend together - breakfast, alphabet soup, Robert's Rules of Order (who's Robert?), lunch, Dutch Blitz, and more! More information coming soon.

OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:

Radiant Care Tabor Manor will be holding a memorial service on **Thursday April 12 @ 7:00 PM.** We will be remembering the lives of residents and tenants who died between November 1, 2017 and April 1, 2018. Please feel free to join us for this service in the Radiant Care Tabor Manor "Great Room", in the new long term care home at 7 Tabor Drive.

MEDA Breakfast and Greenhouse Tour— Join us for a fun morning! Saturday, April 14, 8:30-9:30 am, at Grand Oak Restaurant, 4600 Victoria Ave, Vineland Station, ON. 10:00-11:00 am, CosMic Plants Inc., 4665 Bartlett Rd, Beamsville, ON. Owner Neil van Steekelenburg will lead the tour and speak about how their family business was started and share his faith story in business. RSVP by April 11 to maria.h.klassen@gmail.com.

Special Presentation: "Alone Against the North": An evening is being planned for **Wednesday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m.** at Bethany Mennonite Church. Adam Shoalts, a modern day adventurer, explorer, and map maker will share experiences of his solo journey across the Canadian North from the Yukon to Hudson' Bay. His 4 month travel to commemorate the Canadian 150th anniversary will be shown via a power point presentation and narration of his harrowing, death defying experiences. A nominal fee of \$5.00 per person will be collected to help defray his travel and personal expenses. Come out to see and hear an outstanding presentation that will leave you on the edge of your seats! Invite anyone and everyone you know - you won't regret it!

Want to encounter other cultures? Come hear fascinating stories and experience the diversity at the Canadian School of Peacebuilding. Courses run **Jun. 11-15 or 18-22, 2018** and are a great opportunity to experience an inspiring community of people gathered to learn about peace. For more information, go to csop.cmu.ca or email csop@cmu.ca.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (April 9th- April 15th)

Monday: 7:30 pm Niagara Community Male Chorus
Wednesday: 6:30 pm Pioneer Club
Thursday: 7:00 pm Praise & Worship Practice
8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting (Lounge)
Friday: 7:30 pm Youth

Sunday, April 15th – Pastor David Lewis' Farewell Sunday

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
12:00 pm Farewell Refreshments & Fellowship w/ Dave & Janie- Foyer

**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.