

Welcome to Nith Valley Mennonite Church

“Love God with all our being and love others as ourselves”

Pastors: Matthew & Hendrike Isert Bender

Church: 519-662-3520, Home: 519-684-6957

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www.nithvalleymennonite.com

Youth Ministry – Scott Zehr: 519-655-2387, sjdzehr@yahoo.ca

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Worship Leader: Lois Cressman

Pianist: Bonnie Stemmler

Chorister: Jeannette Cressman

Speaker: Hendrike Isert Bender

Gather to Worship

Prelude

Hymn # 172 (v.1)O Come, O Come Immanuel

Welcome

Candle Lighting

Hymn (SP&W)Hope is a star

Hymn # 60Songs of praise the angels sing

Hearing God's Word

Children's Timeled by Doris Brubacher

Hymn # 197Angels we have heard on high

Scripture ReadingLuke 2: 8-14

Sermon 'Change is Coming... Fear Not!'

Turn to Jesus

Hymn # 195It came upon a midnight clear

Offering

Announcements

Hymn # 178Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Sharing Time

Go with the Spirit

Hymn # 428Lord, let us now depart in peace

Benediction (see insert)

Sunday School Class

1. Young Adult Class

2. Adult Bible Study Class

3. Discussion Class

Coffee/Juice Prep: Chris Cressman

Location

Balcony

Library

Downstairs Hall

Clean Up: Judy Rivers

Next Week – December 16

Worship Leader: Gloria Richardson

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Pianist: Susan Cressman

Chorister: Janna Lynn Cressman

Children's Story Leader: Kathryn Cressman

Coffee/Juice Prep: Dan Cressman

Clean up: Ken Koch

Ushers: Dan & Kathryn Cressman and family

Nith Valley Events:

- Wed. Dec. 12, 9:15-11:15 am. M.O.P.S.
- Fri. Dec. 14, 10 pm. Nith Valley Leafs vs. Mapleview.
- Sat. Dec. 22, 9-11 am. Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Play.
- Mon. Dec. 24, 7 pm. Christmas Eve Service.

The children & youth from grades 1-12 are practicing in the sanctuary for the full Sunday School hour during December to prepare for our Christmas Play, 'The Bells of Glocken,' which will be performed Sunday, December 23. Our dress rehearsal is Sat. Dec. 22, 9-11 am at church. Please contact Susan Cressman if you cannot make this final practice.

An elective on Storytelling will be available in the new year, beginning January 6. Richard Cressman will be guiding the group for 6 Sundays in the secretary's office. As space is limited, please sign up on the bulletin board if you wish to participate in this class.

Financial Update:

100% of Budget: \$ 162 900.00

Givings to Dec. 2/12: \$ 113 824.89

Shortfall: \$ 49 075.11

Thanks to the investments of our members in Mennonite Savings and Credit Union's Church Builder term deposits last year, our church has received a donation of \$2216.55. Since Church Builder term deposits were introduced in 1998, MSCU has donated over \$280 000.00 in bonus interest to 157 churches and church-based organizations in Ontario.

'Thank you to everyone for their prayers, cards and well wishes following my recent surgery. Your kindness is appreciated.'

- Gloria Richardson

Community Events:

- TODAY, 3 pm. Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir's Christmas Concert at the Church of St. John the Evangelist (23 Water St. N, Kitchener). See poster for more details.
- Sat. Dec. 8, 7:30 pm. Mennonite Mass Choir performs Handel's Messiah at the Centre in the Square. Tickets are going fast. Get yours at the Centre's box office or at www.centre-square.com
- Sat. Dec. 8, 8 pm. Kokoro Christmas Choral Concert at Ryerson United Church (265 Wilson St., Guelph). Second performance Sun. Dec. 9, 3 pm at Duff's Presbyterian Church (319 Brock Rd., Guelph).
- Tues. Dec. 11, 10 am – 2 pm. Parkwood Mennonite Home's Christmas Sale.
- Wed. Dec. 12, 6:30-8 pm. Interfaith is hosting a bereavement support evening, 'Coping Through the Holidays,' at the Nithview Community Room. Reserve your place by calling 519-662-3092. See poster for more details.
- Fri. Dec. 14, 8 pm. SOSA (Single or Single Again) group meets at Steinmann MC for a Christmas Carol Sing and Finger Food potluck.
- Sat. Dec. 15, 11:45 am. 'An Unwanted Gift,' part of Faith FM 94.3 series, 'Shaping Families.' Podcast and transcripts available online after the broadcast at www.ShapingFamilies.com
- Sun. Dec. 16, 7:30 pm. Area Mennonite Church Christmas Concert at Steinmann MC. Freewill offering for MCC.
- Tues. Dec. 18, 7 pm. Conrad Grebel presents, 'Advent Jazz Vesper,' featuring a jazz trio, advent readings and prayer.
- Wed. Dec. 19, 7:30 pm. Longest Night Service at Zion United Church (215 Peel St., NH). If the thought of a joyful Christmas weighs heavily on your heart, the churches of Wilmot Township invite you to this ecumenical service.
- Sun. Dec. 23, 7 pm. St. George's Anglican Church (3 Byron St, NH) presents, 'The Nine Lessons and Carols.'

From MC Canada:

Faithful Lord, we are grateful for your ways, rooted in steadfast love and faithfulness. Help us to wait patiently for you. Make us know your ways. Lead us in your truth. Help us to love like you do.

From MCC:

Our Christmas Giving Catalogue has lots of great gift giving ideas and is available online at mcccanada.ca/Christmas

Benediction

Leader: Take your encouragement from Christ,
That your joy may be complete.

**People: We will share in the Spirit;
We will find consolation in love.**

Leader: Practice a ministry of humility and compassion
For God is at work in us, empowering us.

**People: We will welcome Christ into our hearts.
We will live lives worthy of the Gospel.
We will go forth in hope and in peace.**