

Welcome to Nith Valley Mennonite Church

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

Pastors: Matthew & Hendrike Isert Bender

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

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Worship Leader: Mathew Isert Bender

Pianist: Bethany Cressman

Chorister: Lois Cressman

Gather to Worship

Prelude

Hymn # 172 (v. 5,6)O come, O come, Immanuel

Welcome

Candle Lighting

Turn to Jesus

Hymn (SP&W)Hope is a star

Hymn # 26 (S the S)Helpless and hungry

Offering

Announcements

Hymn # 32 (S the S)Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem

Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

Hearing God’s Word

Scripture ReadingMatthew 2: 1-11

Hymn # 212O come, all ye faithful

The Bells of Glocken

Go with the Spirit

Hymn # 215What child is this

Benediction

Thank you to everyone involved in the production of The Bells of Glocken. We appreciate the time and energy you put in to preparing and practicing for today’s play.

Everyone is invited to stay after the service and join us for a Cast Party. Light refreshments will be served in the basement.

Next Sunday – December 30

Worship Leader: Lorrie Koch

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Pianist: Bonnie Stemmler

Chorister: Jeannette Cressman

Ushers: Dan & Kathryn Cressman and family

Nith Valley Events:

- Mon. Dec. 24, 7 pm. Christmas Eve Service.
- Mon. Jan. 7, 7 pm. Christian Ed Ministry Team meeting at church.

Benediction

Leader: Depart in peace and take with you the certain knowledge That God is always coming into the world.

People: We will seek God, not in a long ago stable or ancient manger, but in the people we meet and the depths of our own hearts.

Leader: May the blessing of Christmas make you a blessing to others; May the peace of the season pervade all that you do.

All: We will welcome the challenge of discipleship. We will offer ourselves as God’s ministers. We will go forth in hope, peace, joy and love.

As we celebrate God’s coming into our world in Jesus, we give thanks for our relationship as Pastors and congregation and your love to us as a family. May each of us be filled with hope, peace joy and love this Christmas season and in the New Year to come. *‘As the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.’ John 4:1*

Bible Reading! Please read the outline of the Bible reading program for 2013 and the possible options. Copies were in your mailboxes on Dec. 9 and extra copies are available on the shelf under the mailboxes. Participants are asked to sign on the sheet in the foyer in the appropriate. Help yourself to a pamphlet on the shelf in the foyer which provides one suggestion for reading the Bible in a year's time. Questions should be directed to Ken Cressman or Lois Cressman.

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. 9/12: \$ 122 164.89
Shortfall: \$ 40 735.11

Please Note: Sun. Dec. 30, 2012 will be the last opportunity to make contributions eligible for a 2012 tax credit. Please ensure your offering envelopes are on the offering plate or in Andy's mailbox by Dec. 30. Cheques may be dated as late as Dec. 31, 2012 as the last deposit will be made on the 31st. Or fiscal year runs to Jan. 31/13, so we still have 7 weeks to make our budget. Thanks for your continuing support.

From MCC:

On January 8, 2013, MCC Ontario will be loading and shipping a container destined for Lebanon. We are in need of approximately 120 blankets to finish filling the container. If you have any completed blankets, please deliver them to the Material Resources Centre or your local MCC office prior to January 2, 2013. Thank you!

From MCC:

'MCC Ontario says a heartfelt thanks to the conductor and choir members from Nith Valley for their part in the choir festival at Steinmann MC last Sunday evening. Not only were over 500 people treated to exquisite Christmas music, but donors generously gave \$3450.00 to further MCC's relief, development and peace work, in the name of Christ.'

Rick Cober Bauman

Community Events:

- TONIGHT, 7 pm. St. George's Anglican Church (3 Byron St, NH) presents, 'The Nine Lessons and Carols.'
- Mon. Dec. 24, 9 am – 12 noon. Blood Donor Clinic at Waterloo Oxford DSS. Book an appointment online at www.blood.ca, call 1-888-236-6283 or simply drop in at the donor clinic.
- Sun. Jan. 13, 7 pm. 'Commemorate!' Theatre of the Beat and Mennonite Central Committee invite youth and young adults to Conrad Grebel for a forum theatre play on pacifism and the War of 1812. Visit mcc.ca/peace for more info.
- Tues. Jan. 15. Grade 9 information Night. Students currently in Grade 8, and their families, are invited to join us for a meal and information session about the many opportunities at Rockway. Register online at www.discoverrockway.ca or email admin@rockway.ca for more information
- Fri. Jan. 18. Shadow Day at Rockway. Students currently in Grade 6 & 7 are invited to join us for the day to learn more about student life at Rockway. Guests will be partnered with a current Rockway student, receive a free lunch and enjoy a fun, enriching day as a Rockway student. Register online at www.discoverrockway.ca or email admin@rockway.ca for more information

From Mannheim Mennonite Church:

If your marriage is struggling, it can be good. If your marriage is good, it can be very good! You are invited to participate in a seven week Marriage Course at Mannheim Mennonite Church every Wednesday beginning January 26 from 6:30 to 9 pm. Each session begins with a meal and includes helpful input and opportunity for you, as a couple, to focus on specific issues in your marriage. For further information, or to register, contact Marian Wiens at erv_marian@hotmail.com or 519-746-3703.