

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

nvmc@sympatico.ca

www.nithvalleymennonite.com

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

Vol. 33 April 28, 2013 No.18

Worship Leader: Judie Bowlby

Pianist: Susan Cressman

Chorister: Jeannette Cressman

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Gather to Worship

- Prelude
- Welcome
- Time of Anticipation
- Call to Worship
- Invocation

Hearing God’s Word

- Hymn # 7Here, O Lord, your servants gather
- Hymn # 55 Cantemos al Senor
- Children’s Storyled by Sage Kelly
- Hymn # 341Jesus loves me
- HymnJesus loves the little children
- Scripture ReadingJames 2: 1-5; Revelation 7: 9-12
- Sermon ‘Do we really believe?’

Turning to Jesus

- Hymn # 306In Christ there is no East or West
- Offering
- Announcements
- Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

Go With the Spirit

- Hymn # 322For we are strangers no more
- Benediction
- Time of Reflection
- Postlude

Sunday School Class

1. Youth Class
 2. Young Adult Class
 3. Adult Bible Study Class
 4. Elective – ‘Please Pass the Faith’
 5. Discussion Class
- Coffee/Juice Prep: Ruth Cressman

Location

- Balcony
- Sanctuary
- Library

Downstairs Hall

Clean Up: Kathryn Cressman

Next Sunday – May 5

Worship Leader: Donna Hartzler

Guest Speaker: Scott Zehr

Pianist: Bethany Cressman

Chorister: Terry Keller

Children’s Story Leader: Heather Cressman

Coffee/Juice Prep: Carol Cook

Clean Up: Ken Koch

Ushers: Amzie, Doris & Sage

Nith Valley Annual Meeting will be held Sun. May 5, during the Sunday School hour. All are invited to attend. Supervision will be provided for children. A potluck lunch will follow. See you there!

Nith Valley Events:

- Mon. May 6 & Tues. May 7. Appointment dates for the new photo directory. Sign up sheets are now on the bulletin board in the foyer. Book your time soon!
- Wed. May 8, 7 pm. Christian Ed Ministry Team meeting.
- Sat. May 11. Bus Trip to Niagara Region. The bus will leave the church at 10:00am. The day will include a tour of a Vineyard, a visit to the Botanical Gardens and the Falls. We will stop for dinner on the way home. A deposit of \$25 is required when signing up. The anticipated cost is approximately \$40 plus dinner. Sign up sheets are up and sign up needs to occur by April 28th. Please pay Lorrie, Jackie or Debbie your deposit.
- Sun. May 12, noon. Annual Mothers Day brunch at Mannheim MC

From Pastor-Congregational Relations Committee (PCRC):

Our committee continues to meet regularly. Our role is to care for the relationship between our congregation and pastors. We wish to encourage and facilitate open communication, sharing both affirmations and concerns. Please feel free to approach any of the PCRC members: Brenda Kirkland, Lois Cressman, Tricia Cressman, Pastor Matthew, Pastor Hendrike or Terry Keller.

Guideline Review Team (GRT) Update:

The GRT has been meeting since October 2012 using a process developed in consultation with two MCEC resource persons and church council. The process is based upon the identified "...need to review and update the church guidelines so that they better reflect the congregation's present/future intentions and the structure that will serve these intentions and engage the next generation of leaders and congregants."

The first step has been to update and simplify Part A: Declaration and Intentions. This has been slow and important process as our vision, mission and values are the core upon which our structure is build. Draft 1 and Draft 2 were tested with council, Draft 3 was shared at the budget meeting, tested with a small group on March 28 and has been posted at church. **Draft 4 is now posted** at church and on the website. Look it over and please give feedback to Grt members (Richard, Mark, Gloria, Lara and Matthew). The plan **is to adopt this** as our Declaration and Intentions at the May 5 annual meeting as it will serve as our base as we begin to reflect on our current structure.

Get involved at the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale this year – May 24 & 25! Register for the 5K Run or 2K Walk of the Run for Relief. Or, if you are a musician, volunteer to provide some live music on our music stage. And volunteers are still needed for setup/cleanup and supporting our environmental efforts. We also would like to remind you to start your plant cuttings and bulbs for the Sale. Details of these opportunities to get involved can be found our website www.nhmrs.com or email johnreimer@sentex.ca.

Hidden Acres is still accepting applications for cabin counselors. If you are 17+ and looking for a leadership opportunity, check us out at www.hiddenacres.ca or call 519-625-8602.

Community Events:

- Tues. Apr. 30, 3-9 pm. MWC needs volunteers to stuff envelopes at Rockway MC (32 Weber St. W, Kitchener). Come for part of all of the time. Call Kristen at 519-571-0060 or email KristenHines@mwc-mcc.org to reserve your place.
- Sun. May 5, 2:30-4:30 pm. Detweiler Meetinghouse presents the 2nd Annual Men's Chorus Gospel Sing. Freewill offering.
- Sun. May 5, 3 pm. Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir concert at Breslau MC. Tickets \$10; \$5/children; \$25/family at door.
- Sun. May 5, 4 pm. Vesper Worship Service at St. Jacobs MC. Freewill offering towards Woolwich Community Services.
- Sat. May 11. Hidden Acres 18th Annual Road Hockey Tournament for those 18+. Cost is \$150/team. Register by May 6 by emailing roadhockey@gmail.com. Brochures available on bulletin board.
- Sat. May 11, 5:30 pm. Ken-ya Smell What's Cooking? Join us West Hills Fellowship at Steinmann MC for fellowship, a Kenyan meal and to hear about P.A.C.E. Ministries in Kenya. For tickets, call 519-634-4993. \$10/adults; \$25/family of 3+.
- Sat. May 11, 8 pm. Menno Singers present, 'Gospel,' a fun evening of gospel style music with Menno Youth Singers and congregational participation. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 for students/children & available at MSCU.
- Tues. May 14, 7 pm. Rockway Collegiate Information Night. For more info or to RSVP, go to www.rockway.ca or call 519-743-5209.

Help the Baden Community Association make the first annual Baden Corn Festival a smashing success! Scheduled for Saturday August 10th. this event will highlighting local food producers and restaurants, as well as celebrating the Township's agricultural heritage. Residents and tourists alike will enjoy a wide variety of activities throughout the day. Venders are needed (food and other items) as well as volunteers for the day. (High school students may receive community hours.) Check our the web site for more information <http://badencornfest.ca/index.html>. Or contact Susan Allison-Jones at 519-214-0249 or badenspace@gmail.com

Made into one

Dearly Beloved,

Grace and Peace to you.

*Christ is our peace;
in his flesh he has made different groups into one
and has broken down the dividing wall,
that is, the hostility between us.*

—Ephesians 2.14

Like the first day of Creation,
this has been done, and can't be undone.
As a sculptor carving us from one block,
God has made us this way.
We are not free to make ourselves otherwise.
The only lives we have are these
the Loving One has drawn out of himself,
beyond our small worlds.
As a mother bearing us,
the Living Presence has made us,
in her flesh, made us one.
Not similar, related, or obligated, but
one.

Our separateness is the most seductive illusion.
God's one kiss awakens us.
You are one with the stranger, the enemy,
the very ones you distance yourself from.

Their blood runs in your veins,
your dreams haunt them.
We breathe in one another.
One hand holds us all.

Thus it is possible
to love your neighbor as yourself.

To extend mercy to the other
is not difficult;
it is the return to the One you love.

What God has joined together
let no one break asunder.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Steve