

Welcome to Nith Valley Mennonite Church

Pastors: Matthew & Hendrike Isert Bender

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

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

Vol. 34	January 12, 2013	No.2
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Worship Leader: Tricia Cressman

Pianist: Bonnie Stemmler

Chorister: Terry Keller

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Time of Anticipation

Call to Worship

Invocation

Hymn # 25Jesus, stand among us

Hymn # 11Sweet hour of prayer

Hearing God's Word

Old Testament ReadingIsaiah 42: 1-9

Children's Storyled by Tricia Cressman

Hymn # 517Open my eyes, that I may see

Gospel ReadingMatthew 3: 13-17

Sermon 'Securely Attached'

Turn to Jesus

Hymn # 504Have thine own way

Offering

Announcements

Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

Go with the Spirit

Hymn # 499Lord, speak to me

Benediction

Time of Reflection

Postlude

Sunday School Class

1. Preschool & Primary (ages 2 – gr. 3)

2. Intermediate (gr. 4-7)

3. Youth Class

4. Young Adult Class

5. Adult Bible Study Class

6. Discussion Class

Coffee/Juice Prep: John Ilett

Location

Downstairs

Balcony

Pastors' Office

Sanctuary

Library

Downstairs Hall

Clean up: Judy Rivers

Next Sunday – January 19

Worship Leader: Lois Cressman

Speaker: Hendrike Isert Bender

Music Leaders: Worship Band

Children's Story Leader: Doris Brubacher

Coffee/Juice Prep: Susan Hartzler

Clean up: Bonnie Stemmler

Ushers: Dan & Kathryn Cressman and family

Nith Valley Events:

- Mon. Jan. 13, 7 pm. PCRC meeting.
- Wed. Jan. 15, 7 pm. Church Council meeting.
- Thurs. Jan. 16, 7:30 pm. Fellowship Ministry Team meeting at Hendrike's house.
- Wed. Jan. 22, 7 pm. GRT meeting.
- Feb. 21-23. Nith Valley Retreat at Camp Shalom (near Cambridge). Reserve the date and watch for more info.

Our Pastor-Congregation Relations Committee (PCRC) 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 Committee members: Brenda K., Lyle C., Tricia C., Pastors Matthew/Hendrike, or Terry K.

Bible Reading Program for 2014. You are encouraged to read your Bible regularly in the coming year. Various options and combinations are available on the information sheets in your mailboxes. For those who enter some part of this program, please sign up on the sheet posted in the foyer. Copies of the pamphlets MY BIBLE and ENCOUNTER THE WORD are also on the shelf in the foyer. Help yourself. We will obtain further copies if these run out.

From Christian Ed. Ministry Team:

A Storytelling class is being offered as an adult elective, January 26 until March 16. Please sign up if you are interested in attending this class (maximum 6 people) or speak with Richard Cressman.

Mark the date - Christian Education has booked a visit to 50 Kent to see the new MCC facility. On Sunday, April 13 from 2:30 to 4:30 we will tour the facility and participate in a service project. Everyone interested is invited to attend.

Community Events:

- Fri. Jan. 17, 12:30-1:30 pm. The Institute of Anabaptist Mennonite Studies hosts a book launch for Rob Zacharias, author of *Rewriting the Break: Mennonites & Migration in Canadian Literature*. Join us at Conrad Grebel, Rm 1301.
- Sat. Jan. 18, 7 pm. Wilmot MC presents the movie, 'The Help.' Admission by donation.
- Sun. Jan. 19, 7 pm. Menno Singers Hymn Sing, 'Songs for a Winter Night,' at Stirling Ave MC. Suggested donation - \$10 adult, \$25 family.
- Sun. Jan. 26, 2 pm. Single or Single Again Group meets at Riverside Lanes, NH.
- Thurs. Feb. 13. Join Grebel friends and alumni for An Evening with Bruce Cockburn at the Humanities Theatre. Tickets are \$49. Tickets are available at the Theatre box office.
- Mon. Feb. 17, 10:00 am – 3:30 pm. Hidden Acres Family Day Open House. Come and enjoy many free indoor and outdoor activities. Bring a bag lunch or pre-order a hot lunch for \$2 per person. Reserve your place by calling 519-625-8602 or emailing info@hiddenacres.ca
- Fri. Feb. 21. MCC Heifer Sale at Carson's Auction. To sponsor or donate a heifer, contact Clarence Diefenbacher at 519-669-2164.

Prayer Requests from MC Canada:

Pray for Palmer Becker (Waterloo North Mennonite Church) as he teaches at Bethlehem Bible College in Palestine on a Mennonite Church Canada assignment from January through March.

Pray for the Future Directions Task Force as it meets in Ontario next week to continue the work of discerning God's leading for the church in the coming years.

The Engaged Workshop:

Engaged or newly-married couples are invited to attend one of our spring workshops. Workshops will be held at Living Water Fellowship in New Hamburg on March 14 - 15, and at Mapleview Mennonite Church in Wellesley on May 2 - 3. Cost is \$50 per couple. Find us online at www.marriageencounter.ca

MCEC Celebrates 25 Years!

15 Years Ago this Winter:

Cheryl Weber Good of New Hamburg created 9 different banners for MCEC on the theme: "Abide In Me...Bear Much Fruit", representing all the worship languages then in use in MCEC. The banners circulated to churches as part of an MCEC Year of Prayer. Cheryl, an art mentor and spiritual guide, recalls: "I felt in awe that the work of my hands through art could bridge the various languages and warm their church walls in their home tongue."