

**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”

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**Worship Leader:** Susan Entz

**Pianist:** Susan Cressman

**Chorister:** Terry Keller

**Speaker:** Matthew Isert Bender

**Gather to Worship**

Prelude

Welcome

Time of Anticipation

Hymn # 26 .....Holy Spirit, come with power

Call to Worship

Invocation

**Hearing God’s Word**

Hymn # 12 .....Come, let us all unite to sing

Hymn # 420 .....Heart with loving heart united

Children’s Story .....led by Brenda Kirkland

Scripture .....Acts 15: 1-29

Hymn # 151 .....Marvelous grace of our loving Lord

Sermon ..... ‘Testing the Spirits’

**Turn to Jesus**

Hymn # 322 .....For we are strangers no more

Offering

Announcements

Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

**Go with the Spirit**

Hymn # 421 (vs. 1-3) .....Bless’d be the tie that binds

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

7. Storytelling elective

Coffee/Juice Prep: Glenda Roth

**Location**

Downstairs

Balcony

Pastors’ Office

Sanctuary

Library

Downstairs Hall

Downstairs Office

Clean up: Brenda Kirkland

**Next Sunday – February 2**

Worship Leader:

Speaker: Hendrike Isert Bender

Pianist: Bethany Ruby

Chorister: Lois Cressman

Children’s Story Leader: Doris Zehr

Coffee/Juice Prep: Carol Cook

Clean up: Lloyd Fretz

Ushers: (volunteers needed)

**Nith Valley Events:**

- Feb. 8. Wilmot Cluster Breakfast. See poster and sign up sheet on bulletin board. Please sign up by Feb. 2.
- Feb. 21-23. Nith Valley Retreat at Camp Shalom (near Cambridge). Reserve the date and watch for more info.

**Volunteers Needed.** Nith Valley is turning 40! It is time to celebrate. January 2015, we will celebrate 40 years as Nith Valley. Church Council wants to take time to celebrate our historic identity, who have become and who we are becoming. If you would be interested in planning anniversary celebrations please contact Mark Keller or Matthew Isert Bender.

**February 21-23, Nith Valley Church Retreat**

Book your spot now for a valuable weekend together at Camp Shalom, of food, fellowship, discussion and worship. Sign up sheet is posted at church. We will gather early Friday evening and depart Sunday afternoon following lunch. Everyone is encouraged to attend for the whole weekend, if not come when you are able. Sunday morning worship will happen at Camp Shalom. There is no charge for the retreat if you wish to contribute designate your donations to the Church Retreat Fund. Stay tuned for more info in the following weeks.

**From Christian Ed. Ministry Team:**

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.

**Financial Update:**

100% of Budget: \$164,700.00  
Givings to Jan. 12/14: \$ 152,378.93  
Shortfall: \$ 12,321.07

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.

**Community Events:**

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- 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](mailto:info@hiddenacres.ca)
- Thurs. Feb. 20, 6:30 pm. Rockway Mennonite Collegiate's Annual Fundraising Dinner. Tickets are \$80 (\$55 tax receipt). Tickets available at the school or by calling 519-342-0007 X3012 with your credit card info.
- Fri. Feb. 21. MCC Heifer Sale at Carson's Auction. To sponsor or donate a heifer, contact Clarence Diefenbacher at 519-669-2164.

**From MC Canada:**

Church Leaders Forum 2014 - Shifting Stats, Shaking the Church, with guest speakers Bruxy Cavey (Meetinghouse) and Dr. Don Moore (World Vision): Mennonite Church Canada has negotiated a discount rate of \$20/person for this event which begins on March 18 in Saskatoon and spans 10 cities across Canada, ending on May 8 in Victoria. Visit: [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2269](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2269) <<http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2269>> to register for your preferred location. (Note – closest location is Tyndale Seminary in Toronto on Tues. Apr. 8).

**From Silver Lake Mennonite Camp:**

Women's Retreat, February 28-March 1, 2014 at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp. Theme: The Cup of Our Life with resource person Tanya Dyck Steinmann. Come discover how the ordinary cups that we use each day can become vessels that connect us with life and draw us ever closer to God. Come experience renewal in the beauty of God's Creation and don't forget to bring your favourite mug! For more information or to register visit [www.slmc.ca/retreats](http://www.slmc.ca/retreats) <<http://www.slmc.ca/retreats>> or call the camp office 519-422-3200

**From Mennonite Disaster Service:**

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is looking for 2 certified electricians, for a two week commitment in mid-February, to join a team in retrofitting housing in First Nations communities in Ontario's Far North. All expenses will be covered. MDS is partnering with MCC Ontario in this initiative. Please contact Lyndsay Mollins Koene at 705-264-2494 or [lyndsaymk@mennonitecc.on.ca](mailto:lyndsaymk@mennonitecc.on.ca) <<mailto:lyndsaymk@mennonitecc.on.ca>> if interested.

**From Rockway Mennonite Collegiate:**

Hey students! Interested in learning about Rockway, having a fun day at school and getting a FREE lunch? If you are currently in Grades 6 - 8, you are invited to visit Rockway for a day in February and March and learn more about why our students LOVE Rockway. Go to [www.rockway.ca](http://www.rockway.ca) <<http://www.rockway.ca>> and look for the Shadow Day Registration link under the NEWS & Events tab. Further enquiries can be directed to Tom Bileski at [admin@rockway.ca](mailto:admin@rockway.ca) or by calling 519-342-0007 ext 3029.