

Welcome to Nith Valley Mennonite Church

Pastors: Matthew & Hendrike Isert Bender

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

Vol. 34 March 2, 2014 No. 7

Worship Leader: Hendrike Isert Bender

Pianist: Bonnie Stemmler **Chorister:** Janna Lynn Cressman

Guest Speaker: Rich Robinson

Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Time of Anticipation

Hymn # 68O come, loud anthems let us sing

Call to Worship

Invocation

Hearing God’s Word

Hymn # 124O worship the Lord

Hymn # 489O little children, gather

Children’s Storyled by Hendrike Isert Bender

Scripture

Hymn # 447O Jesus, I have promised

Sermon

Turn to Jesus

Hymn # 35 (SP&W)They’ll know we are Christians

Offering

Announcements

Hymn # 546Guide my feet

Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

Go with the Spirit

Hymn # 420Heart with loving heart united

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: Janet Cressman

Location

Downstairs

Balcony

Pastors’ Office

Sanctuary

Library

Downstairs Hall

Downstairs Office

Clean up: Judie Bowlby

Next Sunday – March 9 First Sunday of Lent

Worship Leader: Kathryn Cressman Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Chorister: Bethany Cressman

Children’s Story Leader: Brenda Kirkland

Ushers: Ken & Lorrie Koch

Coffee/Juice Prep: Debbie Wall

Clean up: Jackie Keller

We welcome Rich Robinson to our worship service this morning, he is director of 3DM Europe. 3DM is a global movement of missional leaders, led by Mike Breen and based in North America. 3DM Europe operates as part of this growing movement in the UK, Europe, Africa and Australasia.

3DM Europe trains churches and Christian leaders to do discipleship and mission in an increasingly post-Christian world. We look to combine our many years of learning in a very secular UK context with our experience of working with hundreds of faith communities worldwide — to come alongside churches and organizations who want to address the challenges facing the future of the church.

We are a ministry grown out of the local church in Sheffield – working with leaders and churches on the topics of discipleship, missional communities, leadership and church. We resource a growing movement of Christian leaders throughout different denominations worldwide who are learning to bring discipleship and mission to the heart of the local church.

Our vision is to make disciples, empower leaders and catalyse movements. (info from <http://weare3dm.co.uk/about/>)

Community Events:

- Wed. Mar. 5, noon. Soup, Sandwich, Sermon & Song – Lenten service at Zion United Church (215 Peel St., NH). Free will offering for the Canadian Bible Society.
- Thurs. Mar. 6, 7:30 pm. Conrad Grebel presents Dr. Steven Nolt (Goshen College), speaking on the topic, ‘Writing the Amish into North American History.’
- Fri. Mar. 7, 7 pm. Menno Youth Singers Concert and Coffee House at Breslau MC.
- Fri. Mar. 7, 7:30 pm. Conrad Grebel presents Dr. Royden Loewen (University of Winnipeg), speaking on the topic, ‘Writing Low German Mennonites into a History of Canada.’
- Sat. Mar. 8, 6:30 pm. MEDA Spring Banquet at Steinmann MC. Reserve your place by Mar. 3 by calling 519-725-1633.
- Mon. Mar 10 or Tues. Mar. 11. Hidden Acres Grandparent & Grandchild Day. More info at www.hiddenacres.ca
- Fri. Mar. 14, 7-10 pm. Single or Single Again Group meets for a game night at the Wilmot Rec Centre (main level meeting room). Cost is \$5.00.
- Thurs. Mar. 20, 6:30-9:00 pm. ‘Mennonites tell Stories about Food,’ at the The Mennonite Story (1406 King St. N, St. Jacobs) featuring Marlene Epp and Rick Cober Bauman. Freewill offering.
- Sat. Mar. 22, 8 am. Elmira Meat Canning Fundraiser Buffet Breakfast at Calvary United Church (48 Hawkesville Rd, St. Jacobs). Tickets are \$12 (adult); \$5 (ages 6-12). Advance tickets only. Call 519-745-8458 to reserve yours.
- Sat. Mar. 22, 8:30 am. 6th Annual Community Peace and Justice Breakfast at Steinmann MC. Admission by donation. To reserve your place, call 519-634-8311.
- Sat. Mar. 22, 8 pm. Menno Singers presents, ‘Exploring East,’ at Waterloo North MC. Tickets are \$20 (\$5 for students).
- Wed. Mar. 26, 7 pm. Conrad Grebel presents Ernie Regehr speaking on the topic, ‘Limits to Force: Why Contemporary Wars are Rarely Won.’ To register for this free event, call 519-885-0220.

From Helen Cressman and family:

Thank you so much for all the help and support that were given to us during the time of Ken’s unexpected passing. A special thanks to Matthew and Hendrike, as well as to Victor Krueger Kischak as well as Jeannette & Susan Cressman. We also want to thank those who prepared the meals and those who assisted in any other way. It was all much appreciated. Thank you.

From Wanda Gingrich & the Good family:

The Good family send a heartfelt "Thank You" for the support and help in every aspect shown in the passing of our sister and aunt, Martha Good. May God bless you for your caring hearts.

From Beulah Cressman

I want to thank the Ladies’ Sewing Circle who planned a birthday party on February 25, my 90th birthday. The cake was delicious and the flowers beautiful. Also, one card was from the Nith Valley family, so thank you everyone!

Ross & Glenda Roth celebrated their **50th Anniversary on Feb 15th** with friends on a two week vacation to Cuba . Best Wishes this Sunday as they have returned home to New Hamburg and the **Cold**.

Nith Valley Events:

- Mon. Mar. 3, 7 pm. PCRC/Personnel meeting.
 - Tues. Mar. 4, 9 am – 3 pm. Nith Valley Sewing Circle.
 - Wed. Mar. 5, 7 pm. Book Study (The 7 Experiment). This first meeting will be held at church.
 - Mon. Mar. 10, 9 am – noon. Rag cutting at the New Hamburg Thrift Centre. All ages welcome. Scissors supplied.
 - Sun. Apr. 13, 2:30-4:30. Join us for a tour of the new MCC facility and participate in a service project.
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Thank you for all who participated and led in different ways this past weekend. It was a wonderful opportunity to be together for a weekend to enjoy each others company and to reflect on who we have been, who we are and who we are becoming as a Nith Valley Mennonite community of faith. If you wish to contribute to the cost of this weekend, designate your donation to the Retreat fund. Donations will be accepted yet to this fund on March 2 and March 9.

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.

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.

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 spans 10 cities across Canada. Visit: www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2269 to register for your preferred location. OUR LOCATION is Tyndale Seminary in Toronto, 1:30-4:30 pm, Tuesday April 8. Pastor Matthew is planning to attend this event and would gladly carpool with others, any questions or help with registering please talk with him.

From Canadian Mennonite University:

Check out Food, Farming and Faith: Living in God's Creation with Norman Wirzba at the Canadian School of Peacebuilding, June 16 - 20, 2014. See csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca for more information.

From Tri-County Mennonite Homes:

Tri-County Mennonite Homes is very pleased to announce that Elizabeth Klassen has accepted their offer of employment for the position of Executive Director of Nithview Community, New Hamburg. Elizabeth and her husband Gerry Steingart attend Rockway Mennonite Church, Kitchener. Thank you for your prayers for Elizabeth as she settles into her new position at Nithview.

From MC Canada:

Africa, Asia, South America, and the Holy Land are calling you! If you can: do renovations, property maintenance, administrative work, teach English, practice hospitality, assist a pastor or librarian – or are a young adult looking for a cross-cultural adventure in a Christian context, then MC Canada has opportunities for you – right now! Visit www.mennonitechurch.ca/serve/ for details or contact Tany Warkentin at twarkentin@mennonitechurch.ca.

Would you like to host international visitors? Before and after Mennonite World Conference Assembly (21-26 July 2015), in Pennsylvania, USA, participants will have the opportunity to make “Assembly Scattered” visits to see how God is working in churches and ministries around North America. To sign up as an Assembly Scattered location, register by March 15 at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015.

Pray for peaceful resolution of tensions in the Ukraine and safety for all, including Mennonite Church Canada partners: Zaporizhzhе Mennonite Church, Pastor Sergey and Lena Deynekin in Kherson, and Mary Raber, a partner through Mennonite Mission Network.

Registration is underway for Mennonite Church Canada’s Assembly 2014: Wild Hope: Faith for an unknown season. It takes place July 3-6 in Winnipeg. Find more information and register at home.mennonitechurch.ca/events/Winnipeg2014. All are welcome!

New in 2015: Mennonite World Conference’s Assembly (21-26 July 2015, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA) will feature small groups! These multicultural groups will meet daily for conversation and prayer as we get to know our Mennonite brothers and sisters around the world. Find out more or give to the world scholarship fund at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015.

The Mennonite Congregation of Ouagadougou recently moved into a new facility that includes a place of worship and a hostel that provides a safe, faith-building home for university students. Thank you for making this possible!