

Welcome to Nith Valley Mennonite Church

Pastors: Matthew & Hendrike Isert Bender

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

nvmc@sympatico.ca www.nithvalleymennonite.com

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

Vol. 36 April 10, 2016 No. 16

Pianist: Janna Lynn Cressman Chorister: Lois Cressman
Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Gather to Worship

- Prelude
- Welcome
- Time of Anticipation
- Call to Worship – Readers’ Theatre - Ephesians 1:3-14
- Invocation
- Hymn # 1 (blue)What is this place
- Hymn # 27 (duotang)Shout to the North

Hearing God’s Word

- Children’s Storyled by Tricia Cressman
- Hymn # 389 (blue)Take my life
- Scripture ReadingPsalm 30
- Sermon

Turning to Jesus

- Hymn # 63 (green)Lord you give the great commission
- Offering
- Announcements
- Sharing Time and Prayer of the Church

Go With the Spirit

- Hymn # 49 (green)Rain Down
- Time of Reflection
- Coffee and Stretch Break
- Annual Meeting
- Benediction – Readers’ Theatre - Ephesians 3:14-21
- Postlude

Next Sunday – April 17

Worship Leader: Susan Entz

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Pianist: Susan Cressman

Chorister: Terry Keller

Children’s Story Leader: Janet Cressman

Coffee/Juice Prep: Stephen Hoke

Clean Up: Susan Hartzler

Nith Valley Events:

- Wed. Apr. 13, 9:15-11:15. MOPS.
- Sat. May 7. Join us for a bus trip to watch the Toronto Blue Jays play the LA Dodgers. Meet at church at 10:00 am. Questions? Talk to Dan Cressman.

Note from Church Council:

Due to some severe scent sensitivities within Nith Valley, we would ask that you please refrain from wearing scents or bringing any scented candles, etc, into church on Sunday mornings for worship or through the week. We appreciate your cooperation.

From Interfaith Counselling Centre:

We are busy planning for our upcoming Annual Silent Auction and we are looking for some volunteers to help us with some organizing, and collection of donations. If you are interested in helping, please contact Interfaith at 519-662-3092.

From MDS:

Urgent need: The MDS project in Detroit, Michigan, has openings for week-long volunteer groups or individuals for the following dates:

- April 18-22 (12-15 people needed)
- April 25-29 (12-15 people needed)
- May 16-20 (10 people needed)

Volunteers should plan to arrive on Sunday by 6:00 PM for orientation and work through Friday.

For more information or to sign up call 1-800-241-8111 or contact ahurst@mds.mennonite.net for more information or to sign up.

Congregational - Pastoral Review 2016 update...

Our sincerest thanks to all those who have been willing to participate in any/all of the review components. We are also very grateful for Jamie Gerber's guidance & support, being MCEC's resource person, during our review.

To date, most all of the Ministry Teams & Council have completed their Ministry Team questionnaires... the Pastors Self Review is completed... 65 attended the hot breakfast, with 48 then participating in our Focus Groups held here at the Church on February 21st, & 6 participated in the Focus Group held at Nithview Home February 17th. Our on-line (&/or paper) Survey closed on Feb. 14th with an 81.5% response rate! (Exceptional response rate!) Summary reports are being prepared (some completed already) for each segment of our review process.

With each of the information gathering segment steps completed, we believe there is more than sufficient information now available for the PCR Ministry Team to review, tabulate and prepare a final summary report to Church Council yet in March. After we complete a summary document for the Ministry Team & Council questionnaires, we will be able to prepare our final report. Once reviewed, revised as needed, and approved by Council, our final report will be provided back to the congregation. Our intentions are to have this readied for verbally presenting either at our Annual Church & Budget Meeting (Sunday April 10th), or in the weeks directly following, yet in April. This final report, along with each of the summary documents from each segment of the review process, will be posted on Nith Valley's website for a few weeks. (in the password protected section, where council minutes are held) Paper copies will be made available if requested, & sent to those at Nithview Home who participated in the review process.

Ephesians 4:15-16... Instead, we will lovingly follow the truth at all times—speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly and so become more and more in every way like Christ who is the Head of His body, the Church. Under His direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly, and each part in its own special way helps the other parts, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

This process has hopefully celebrated where God has been at work in the past, the present and continue to positively build on that as we imagine the future. Your continued prayers are assuredly appreciated.

“We need each other... we are each other... and we're more than just ourselves because of each other...”

Our Pastor-Congregation Relations Ministry Team (PCR) 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 PCR Ministry Team... Brenda K.; Lyle C.; Tricia C.; Pastors Matthew/Hendrike, or Terry K. .

Relief Sale News:

In celebration of the Relief Sale's 50th anniversary, we are displaying quilts that were bought at the sale in the last 50 years at the 'Quilts of the World' venue of the St. Jacobs Quilt Show (May 24-27) at the St. Jacobs Mennonite Church. For more information, contact Ella Brubacher at 519-664-3419 or lbrubacher1942@rogers.com

Calendar Dates From the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale:

- 1) Sale dates: our 50th Sale is May 27th & 28th.
 - 2) Promotion Dinner: April 25th at Bingemans (the Peter Etril Snyder print #1 of Going Once... Giving Twice... will be auctioned at the dinner).
 - 3) Martin Family Singers: concert May 15th at Steinmann's Mennonite Church.
- See our website for more details: nhmrs.com/news

From MC Canada:

- 1) Assembly 2016 Saskatoon – Plan to attend! Youth Assembly planners have been busy producing videos to welcome youth – but adults will enjoy these too! Information, registration, and inspiration is all linked from here: home.mennonitechurch.ca/saskatoon2016/
- 2) Follow the Future Directions Task Force conversation about the future of Mennonite Churches in Canada at home.mennonitechurch.ca/FutureDirections.
- 3) Are you a young adult looking for a one-year formational experience in cross-cultural learning and service? Mennonite Church Canada is inviting team members to work alongside Witness workers Darnell & Christina Barkman in Manila, Philippines. For opportunities in Philippines, Ecuador or Indonesia visit home.mennonitechurch.ca/ShortTerm/JourneyIntl or contact Tany Warkentin (twarkentin@mennonitechurch.ca). Application deadline is June 1, 2016.

Community Events:

- Tues. Apr. 12, noon. Herald Press/MennoMedia (50 Kent Ave) hosts Gus Konkell, the author Believers' Church Bible Commentary series: I and II Chronicles. The book will be available for 25% off with the author here to sign them. Feel free to bring a bag lunch to this informal gathering.
- Tues. Apr. 12, 2 pm. Tri-County Mennonite Homes will be holding a Strategic Planning Forum at Nithview, to receive input on their new Mission Statement and 5-year Strategic Plan. (Document posted on bulletin board.)
- Tues. Apr. 12, 6:30 pm. MSCU's Annual General Meeting at Creekside Church (660 Conservation Dr, Wloo).
- Wed. Apr. 20, 7 pm. Tri-County Mennonite Homes presents, 'Cracked: New Light on Dementia,' at the Nithview Auditorium. (Rescheduled date.) See poster on bulletin board.
- Thurs. Apr. 21. MEDA (Mennonite Economic Development Associates) breakfast at the Stone Crock, with speaker Kaylie Tiessen. Call 519-725-1633 for more info.
- Thurs. Apr. 21, 7 pm. 'Selling the Mennonite Brand,' an evening with Sam Steiner at the St. Jacobs School House Theatre (11 Albert St. W, St. Jacobs). Admission by donation.
- Tues. Apr. 26, 7 pm. Rockway Collegiate Information Night. More information at www.rockway.ca
- Thurs. Apr. 28, 7 pm. Tri-County Mennonite Homes presents, 'Right Size With Ease! A workshop for seniors in transition,' at the Nithview Auditorium. See poster for details.
- Sat. Apr. 30, 7:30 pm. A Capella Masterworks, featuring Menno Singers and the Pax Christie Corale at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Kitchener. Tickets \$25, available at Music Plus or at the door.
- Wed. May 18. Rockway Mennonite Collegiate's Annual Golf Tournament at Willow Valley Gold Course. Visit www.rockway.ca to register.