

## 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. 37 April 2, 2017 No. 14

Worship Leader: Kathryn Cressman

Pianist: Susan Cressman

Chorister: Lois Cressman

Speaker: Hendrike Isert Bender

*Focus Statement: When we come to the end of our own human strength, vitality, and purpose, we recognize the reality of death in and around us. God, who is Spirit, breaths life into us, revealing God’s glory and purpose. We, and the community, are restored.*

### Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Time of Anticipation – Special Music .....Holy City

Call to Worship

Invocation

Hymn # 26 (blue) .....Holy Spirit, come with power

Hymn # 349 (blue) .....Spirit of the living God

### Hearing God’s Word

Children’s Story

Hymn # 356 (blue) .....Breathe on me, breath of God

Scripture Reading .....Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Sermon ..... ‘These dry bones will live’

Confession and Words of Assurance

Hymn # 483 (blue) .....O God, who gives us life

Lenten Ritual

### Turn to Jesus

Offering

Announcements

Sharing Time and Prayer of the Church

Hymn # 49 (purple) .....I will come to you in the silence

### Go with the Spirit

Benediction

Time of Reflection

Postlude

### Sunday School Class

1. Preschool & Kindergarten Class

2. Primary Class

3. Junior Class

4. Young Adult

5. Sermon Discussion Class

6. Adult Bible Study Class

Coffee/Juice Prep: Glenda Roth

### Location

Downstairs

Downstairs

Balcony

Sanctuary

Downstairs Hall

Upstairs Library

Clean Up: Lorrie Koch

### Next Sunday – April 9

Worship Leader: Lorrie Koch

Pianist: Janna Lynn Cressman

Children’s Story Leader: Doris Brubacher

Coffee/Juice Prep: Wayne Eckstein

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Chorister: Jeannette Cressman

Clean Up: Jeannette Cressman

### Nith Valley Events:

- Tues. Apr. 4, 9 am – 3 pm. Nith Valley Sewing Circle. Evening group will meet from 7-9 pm for quilting and comforter knotting. All are welcome.
- Wed. Apr. 5, 6:30. Women’s Bible Study, with the book ‘Jesus Calling’ by Sarah Young. This week’s meeting will be at Hendrike’s house.
- Sun. Apr. 9. Annual Reports Due.
- Fri. Apr. 14, 7 pm. Good Friday Service.
- Sun. Apr. 15, 8:00 am. Easter Sunrise Service.
- Sun. Apr. 16, 8:30 am. Easter Potluck Breakfast. Please bring bring fruit, breads or eggs to share. Please invite your friends to join us for the morning.
- Sun. Apr. 16, 10:00 am. Easter Sunday Service.
- Sun. Apr. 23, 11:00. Annual Meeting.
- Sat. Apr. 29, 8:00 pm. We have now purchased a group of tickets for 'The Amish Project', a play at St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre. If you didn't have a chance to sign up, you can still go. Please speak to Susan Cressman.

**Note from the Worship Ministry Team:** This year we will commit to the ancient Christian practice of "Keeping Watch at the tomb" from Sat. Apr 15 at 8:00 pm to Sun Apr 16th at 8:00 am. The vigil will end with a short sunrise service for all those who have been praying and all others who wish to join around the "empty tomb." A schedule is on the bulletin board at church to sign up for a prayer slot. They are in one hour blocks and people are invited to light a candle and pray at home or at the church in the sanctuary during their time of prayer.

Hidden Acres Annual Bowlathon fundraiser. Thank you for your past and continued support. Please see Dan Cressman to make a pledge.

### Community Events:

- Apr 13-16 (Registry Theatre, Kit.) and Apr 26-30 (St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre). Come see 'The Amish Project,' a fictional depiction of the Nichol Mines Schoolhouse shooting. For info and tickets, go to [mcco.ca/the-amish-project](http://mcco.ca/the-amish-project)
- Mon. Apr. 20, 6:45 pm. Advanced screening of the movie 'Maudie,' (about Maud Lewis), at the Princess Twin Cinema (46 King St. N, Wloo), plus an after-party at the Delta hotel, featuring Maud's work and celebrating the find of an original painting at the NH Thrift Centre. Tickets are \$50. More info at [mcc.ca/maud-lewis](http://mcc.ca/maud-lewis)
- Sat. Apr. 22. Canadian Mennonite's Annual Fundraising Banquet. At Floradale MC. RSVP by April 15 to [alexandra.LT.siebert@gmail.com](mailto:alexandra.LT.siebert@gmail.com) or call 343-262-1002. Freewill offering. Receipts will be issued for donations above \$30 per person.
- Sun. Apr. 23, 1:30 pm. Pilgrimage for Indigenous Rights, a 600 km walk from Kitchener to Ottawa. Opening ceremonies at Stirling Ave. For more info, email [josie@stirlingmennonite.ca](mailto:josie@stirlingmennonite.ca)
- Mon. Apr. 24, 6 pm. New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Fundraising Dinner at Bingemans. Call 519-745-8458 or stop by Kent St for tickets (\$10).
- April 24-28. MCC's Elmira Meat Canning. To donate pigs or cattle, contact Murrel Martin (519-835-1482); to volunteer, contact Keith or Diane Snyder (519-669-4084); to purchase, contact Lester Weber (519-669-0512)
- Tues. Apr. 25, 7 pm. Rockway Mennonite Collegiate hosts a grade 7-12 Information Night. Go to [www.rockway.ca](http://www.rockway.ca)
- Mon. May 1 or Tues May 2. Senior's Retreat at Hidden Acres with resource people Jack and Irene Suderman. See bulletin board for more details.
- Sun. May 7, 3 pm. Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at Benton St. Baptist Church, Kitchener. Alumni are encouraged to participate by attending the rehearsal, dinner and entertainment on Sat. May 6. Email [intermennonitechilrenschoir@gmail.com](mailto:intermennonitechilrenschoir@gmail.com) for more info or to register.

### From Wilmot Mennonite Church:

On Tuesday morning several men at Wilmot Mennonite Church gather together to weave mats out of 4l plastic milk bags. (The bags that hold the 3 individual bags of milk.) So far this year they have made 21 matts. These matts are sent to locations in Africa where they are used in hospitals to give people a buffer between them and the floor when beds are not available. Nith Valley will collect bags in a box in the coat room.

### From MC Canada:

- The subject of peace found its way to a TEDx Talk at Zurich International School in Switzerland! On March 18, Karl and Marla Langelotz talked about relationship as the foundation for peace with the student community. They drew from their experiences with Syrian refugees while serving on a short term assignment with Mennonite Church Canada at Friedenshaus (Peace House) in Ludwigshafen, Germany.
- The Mennonite Women Canada Executive held their annual board meeting in Winnipeg in March. They thank God for safe travels and the ability to discern an immediate way forward through changing cultural and ecclesial landscapes. Praise God for this organization and the great ministry opportunities it provides for Mennonite women across Canada to connect.
- The Pilgrimage for Indigenous Rights (PFIR) is garnering attention and support. We are grateful for the 25 walkers who have signed up thus far to participate in this venture. It is designed to raise awareness of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People with a 600 km walk from Kitchener-Waterloo to Ottawa, Ont. April 24 to May 14. To learn more about PFIR, see [www.pfir.ca](http://www.pfir.ca).
- As the area and national bodies of MC Canada seek to establish and implement future directions for the church, please keep Willard Metzger, Executive Director; Calvin Quan, Moderator, Keith Regehr, Transition Coordinator; and other leaders in your prayers.
- We often pray for others within the wider family of MC Canada, but let's not forget our own faith communities. Please pray for your congregational family. May God's grace and peace be with your church as it serves, offers witness, and responds to challenges at home.

