

**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 September 10, 2017 No. 32

Pianist: Bonnie Stemmler Chorister: Janna Lynn Cressman  
Speaker: Hendrike Isert Bender

**Gather to Worship**

- Prelude
- Welcome
- Time of Anticipation
- Call to Worship
- Invocation
- Hymn # 1 (blue) .....What is this place
- Hymn # 12 (blue) .....Come, let us all unite to sing

**Hearing God’s Word**

- Children’s Story .....led by Stacey Keller
- Hymn # 9 (green) .....Come, now is the time to worship
- Scripture Reading .....Acts 2: 42-47
- Sermon
- Hymn # 407 (blue) .....We are people of God’s peace

**Turn to Jesus**

- Offering
- Announcements
- Milestone Ministry
- Prayer of the Church
- Hymn # 322 (blue) .....For we are strangers no more
- Hymn # 78 (green) .....We will walk with God

**Go with the Spirit**

- Benediction
- Time of Reflection
- Postlude

**Sunday School Class**

1. Preschool & Kindergarten
  2. Primary Class
  3. Junior Class
  4. Current Affairs Class
  5. Sermon Discussion Class
  6. Bible Study Class
- Coffee/Juice Prep: Gabrielle Paff

- Location**
- Downstairs
  - Downstairs
  - Balcony
  - Sanctuary
  - Downstairs Hall
  - Upstairs Library
  - Clean Up: Jesse Cressman

**Next Sunday – September 17**

Worship Leader & Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender  
 Pianist: Susan Cressman Chorister: Terry Keller  
 Children’s Story Leader: Judy Rivers  
 Coffee/Juice Prep: Tricia Cressman Clean up: Ken Koch

God’s people will be our theme this fall. As God’s people we are looking forward to some special services. On **Sept. 17**, Bethany & Ross Ruby will dedicate Eloise and Rebecca & Steve Berry will dedicate Tristan into our Nith Valley Mennonite family. On **Sept. 24**, we will officially welcome new members into our community by baptism or transfer of membership: Linda & Bill Barker, Sam Cressman, Joyce Fyn and Nick & Tammy Shantz. We invite you to pray for all individuals who are covenanting with us to be part of our community and we ask for prayers as a community to be a place of welcome where we together love God with all our being and love others as ourselves.

**Nith Valley Events:**

- Mon. Sept. 11, 7 pm. Fellowship Ministry Team meeting.
- Wed. Sept. 13, 9:15-11:15 am. MOPS.

**Financial Update:**

31/52 of \$159,200 Budget	\$94,907.69
Budget givings to Sept 3/17	\$61,540.00
Shortfall	\$33,367.69

Please remember that offerings can be designated to the Retreat fund.

The Refreshment schedule has been distributed for Sep17-Jun18. If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please seek a replacement and let Carolyn know about the change. Thanks for your help to ensure refreshments are available each week.

Hillcrest Mennonite Church is inviting us to join them for a joint Advent/Christmas choir. Les Neufeld from Hillcrest will be leading this project. Practices will take place Sunday evenings 6:30 to 8:00 pm beginning October 15 (location to be confirmed). Music will be shared with the congregation either Dec 10 or 17. Please speak with Susan Cressman if you are interested in joining the choir.

### **Fall Retreat 2017 -- September 29 - October 1 @ Hidden Acres.**

For our Fall Retreat this year, Tamara Shantz will lead us in looking at the spiritual journey from the perspective of the Enneagram – a tool that helps increase our self-awareness. We will explore nine different journeys of the soul: how we experience disconnection from God and our deepest self, and how the Spirit is inviting each of us back home.

In preparation for the retreat, you are invited to read basic descriptions of the Nine personality types outlined by the Enneagram. You don't need to know for sure what type you are, but it may be helpful to come with 2 or 3 of the descriptions with which you most identify. A short description is digitally available for each type attached to this email and/or printed copies are available at church. If you wish to do more reading in advance of the retreat you can visit [www.enneagraminstitute.com/type-descriptions](http://www.enneagraminstitute.com/type-descriptions)

We are asking for volunteers to organize food, 5 meals in total are needed. Perhaps your family would be willing to take on this task. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please speak with Matthew or Susan.

### **From Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary:**

AMBS offers a fully online 27-credit-hour Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies is ideal for church leaders, bivocational pastors and other professionals who want to strengthen the biblical and theological foundation for their work. Develop a plan of study that matches your interests. Complete the program in one year with full-time study or over several years with part-time study (100 percent online or with a combination of online, campus and hybrid courses). AMBS offers generous need-based financial aid to help make your seminary education affordable. [www.ambs.edu/academics/certificates](http://www.ambs.edu/academics/certificates)

### **Community Events:**

- TONIGHT, 7-8 pm. Free Family Skate at Wilmot Rec Centre, to recognize World Suicide Prevention Day. Skate will be followed by a Walk of Light at the Schmidt Woods Trail.
- Sat. Sept. 16, 4:30-6:30 pm. St. Jacob's Mennonite Church's annual Chicken and Sausage BBQ. Adults \$18.00, children (5-12) \$10.00. Tickets available by calling 519-664-2268, emailing [church@sjmc.on.ca](mailto:church@sjmc.on.ca) or at the door. Advance tickets recommended.
- Sun. Sept. 17, 2:30 pm. Jim Reimer Memorial Bluegrass Concert at Conrad Grebel (Great Hall), featuring Rescue Junction and 5 on the Floor. Free admission with a donation to the Reimer Scholarship in Theological Studies.
- Sept. 22-24. Men's Retreat at Silver Lake Camp. Cost is \$195. Only a few spots are still available. Register online ([www.slmc.ca/retreats](http://www.slmc.ca/retreats)) or call 519-442-3200.
- Tues. Sept. 26, noon. MCC presents, Refugee Sponsorship: A Lunch and Listen event. Come to hear news and stories about the sponsorship program. Bring your own lunch.
- Tues. Sept. 26, 7 pm. Tri-County Mennonite Homes Annual General Meeting at Poole Mennonite Church.

### **Prayer Request from MC Canada:**

We give thanks for the many students and young adults who served and grew in their leadership development through camps this summer across the five area churches of Mennonite Church Canada. We are also grateful for learning and growth of students returning to school from internships and summer jobs. Remember to encourage and support them as they dive back into full time study schedules, assignments, and deadlines.

### **From Canadian Mennonite University:**

1. As CMU classes begin, pray for core theological and Biblical **classes** which all CMU students take, that they may stimulate faith and faithfulness in students of all backgrounds.
2. Congregations, check out CMU's Portables, offered through *The CMU Centre for Faith and Life*, as you seek to strengthen witness and mission. See [cmu.ca/portable](http://cmu.ca/portable) for details.

