

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. 37 December 3, 2017 No. 42

Pianist: Susan Cressman

Chorister: Jeannette Cressman

Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Time of Anticipation

Call to Worship

Candle Lighting

Invocation

Hymn # 1 (purple)Praise the One who breaks the silence

Hymn # 334 (blue)Christ is the world’s true light

Hearing God’s Word

Children’s Storyled by Tammy Shantz

Hymn # 172 (blue)O come, O come, Immanuel

Scripture ReadingMark 13: 24-37

Sermon ‘Let it be, bring it on’

Hymn # 115 (purple)Beauty for brokenness

Turn to Jesus

Offering

Announcements

Confession

Words of Assurance

Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

Hymn # 472 (blue)I am the Bread of life

Communion

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

Go with the Spirit

Benediction

Time of Reflection

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: Nick & Tammy Shantz

Location

Downstairs

Downstairs

Balcony

Sanctuary

Downstairs Hall

Upstairs Library

Clean Up: Debbie Wall

Next Sunday – December 10

Worship Leader & Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender

Pianist: Andrea Yantzi

Chorister: Les Neufeld

Children’s Story Leader: Tammy Shantz

Coffee/Juice Prep: Amzie & Doris Brubacher

Clean Up: Bill & Linda Barker

From Fellowship Ministry Team:

Hillcrest and Nith Valley have joined voices and have been practicing for a special music morning program at Nith Valley Sun. Dec.10.

Since we are hosting this event, we will also supply refreshments following the service. The children will have Sunday School as per usual and the adults will gather for a fellowship time in the basement during the second hour. Please sign up if you can contribute Christmas cookies/squares for this event.

Nith Valley Events:

- Sun. Dec. 10. We have invited Hillcrest to join us for the worship service and to enjoy the music of the Nith Valley-Hillcrest singers!
- Fri. Dec. 22, 7 pm. Caroling at Nithview. This event is open to all Nithview residents and will be held in the Auditorium. Come join in an evening of carols and music.

Financial Update:

42/52 of \$159,200 Budget	\$128,584.61
Budget givings to Nov 19/17	\$92,146.60
Shortfall	\$36,438.01

On behalf of Church Council and the Canada Day Brunch Committee,

After this year's Canada Day Brunch, there was some discussion among some of the volunteers as to whether Nith Valley should continue hosting the Canada Day Brunch. In response to that, some weeks ago, Jackie spent some time talking with each of the adult Sunday School classes regarding the continuation of Nith Valley hosting the Canada Day Brunch. The Canada Day brunch started more than 20 years ago as a Nith Valley event to raise funds to send NV youth to annual conferences. Since that time, it has evolved into an event where the proceeds have been given to local organizations within our community. Over the years, we have supported the Wilmot Family Resource Center, Interfaith Counselling, House of Friendship, Aldaview and Reception House to name a few. Our support of these organizations has been greatly appreciated.

In 2015, when there was conversation if we should continue with the brunch, a survey was circulated to ask that very question. At that time, not only did 95% of people say that the brunch aligned with NV's mission & vision, but 88% said they would like to see it continue and 87% said they would volunteer at the event. At some of our previous church retreats, the Canada Day Brunch has been mentioned as one of NV's most important events.

However, even if there was considerable support in the past, that does not mean that support is still there. The brunch can be seen as a missional church event, going outside our church walls and offering something to the community. But it's time to evaluate whether this is still an important event or whether it is time to discontinue it. So in order to decide its importance and its future, and following a suggestion that some of you brought forward in the discussions during the Sunday School classes, we are asking each of you to think about whether you are committed to continuing this event by indicating whether you would volunteer on Sunday, July 1, 2018 to help with the event.

Please take some time to consider whether you want to sign up as a volunteer or not, and be honest with yourself when thinking about it. Please do not do so from a sense of guilt or obligation. However, if you would find the event energizing, life-giving, would see this as a way for Nith Valley to be missional and give back to the community, and are excited to be a part of it, please consider signing up.

You will have until Dec 17 to sign up (either at the back of the church or by emailing Carolyn at nvmc@sympatico.ca). Please indicate whether you would be available for either Sat. June 30 or Sunday, July 1 or both. Based on volunteers used in the past and assessing the individual roles that need to be filled, at least 8 volunteers for the day before the event (set up, pickup of food/supplies, decorating) and 30 for the day of the event are required in order for the event to run smoothly (these are adult volunteers, but of course children in addition to this would be most welcome). As of Dec 17, we will see if there is enough commitment to continue the brunch based on the number of individuals that have signed up, but if there is not, then we will not host the event moving forward, and the Canada Day Committee will be informed of our decision.

Thanks very much and God bless.

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Community Events:

- Sun. Dec. 3, 3 pm. Three Choirs at Christmas Concert (Menno Singers, Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir and Menno Youth) at St. John's Lutheran Church, Waterloo. Tickets available from choristers, online (www.mennosingers.com) or at the door.
- Sat. Dec. 9, 7:30 pm. Rockway Mennonite Church (47 Onward Ave Kitchener), presents the Kokoro Singers, directed by Brenda Uchimaru. Tickets are \$20 adults; \$15 students/seniors; children under 12 free.
- Sun. Dec. 10, 3 pm. Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir concert at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church. Tickets are \$10 (adults) and \$5 (children).
- Sun. Dec. 10, 7 pm. Shantz Mennonite Church presents, John B. Miller & Friends, 'Songs of Advent and the Birth of Jesus.' Suggested donation of \$10 per person.
- Tues. Dec. 12, 7:30 pm. Rockway Mennonite Collegiate presents their Christmas concert at St. Matthew's Lutheran church. Freewill offering.
- Wed. Dec. 13, 7 pm. Conrad Grebel presents Advent Jazz Vespers service.
- Sun. Dec. 17, 3 pm. Menno Singers hosts a Messiah sing-a-long at St. Jacobs Mennonite Church. Admission by donations (tax receipts issued for donations of \$20 or more).

From Conrad Grebel:

To start in January 2018, Conrad Grebel University College is hiring a part-time food services assistant for a contract position covering a maternity leave, working 6-8 shifts per 2-week period. Apply by Dec. 11, 2017. Read the full job description at grebel.ca/positions

From the New Hamburg Thrift Store:

We are hiring a new full-time management team member. The successful candidate will be in charge of property and storage management, external waste management, and train and support volunteers in the electrical, hardware, toys and sporting goods departments. For more info, go to mcccanada.ca/get-involved