

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. 38 February 18, 2018 No. 7

Worship Leader: Tammy Shantz

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

Focus Statement: An everlasting covenant is made between God (me), the people (you), and every living creature. God’s intention for relationship with the earth is inclusive and expansive, yet in our narrow-mindedness, we often exclude. How are we invited to expand our understanding to realize that all are included in God’s covenant?

Gather to Worship

- Prelude
- Welcome
- Time of Anticipation
- Call to Worship
- Invocation
- Hymn # 50 (blue)Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah

Hearing God’s Word

- Children’s Storyled by Tammy Shantz
- HymnGod’s love is for everyone
- Scripture ReadingGenesis 9: 8-17
- Sermon ‘Me and You and the Creatures too’
- Hymn # 43 (blue)Christ is our cornerstone

Turn to Jesus

- Offering
- Announcements
- Hymn # 46 (blue)I sing the mighty power of God
- Confession and Words of Assurance
- Sharing Time & Prayer of the Church

Go with the Spirit

- HymnI will bless you
- Benediction
- Time of Reflection

Sunday School Class

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Preschool & Kindergarten | Downstairs |
| 2. Primary Class | Downstairs |
| 3. Junior Class | Balcony |
| 4. Sermon Discussion Class | Downstairs Hall |
| 5. Current Affairs Class | Sanctuary |
| 6. Bible Study Class | Upstairs Library |
| Coffee/Juice Prep: Janet Cressman | Clean Up: Andy Kirkland |

Next Sunday – February 25

Worship Leader: Donna Hartzler Speaker: Matthew Isert Bender
Pianist: Bonnie Stemmler Chorister: Terry Keller
Children’s Story Leader: Stacey Keller
Coffee/Juice Prep: Sam Cressman & Joyce Fyn
Clean Up: Kevin D. Cressman

From Christian Formation Ministry Team:
A Sunday School teacher, or team of teachers is needed to lead the Sermon Discussion class, beginning March 11.

Volunteer Needed:
We need a volunteer to be the Relief Sale Cookie Table Convener. Lara Shantz will pass on some supplies, and information to help the new person get oriented.

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp and Retreat Centre’s 36th Annual Bowlathon will be held on Saturday, March 3. This is the camp’s main fundraising activity. Last year, \$34,000 was raised! This money is used for capital expenses. Please show your support by sponsoring Dan Cressman, or donating online at hiddenacres.ca/bowlathon
Thank you!

The family of Gladys Cressman would like to express their Thanks and appreciation for all the support and love given to us over the time of her passing. We realize how special our church community is at a time like this.

Community Events:

- Sat. Feb. 24. Coldest Night of the Year Walk. Gather some friends and walk 2, 5 or 10 km. Call the Wilmot Family Resource Centre (519-662-2731) for more info.

Update from PCRC & Church Council:

We have begun the process of a pastoral transition. Matthew and Hendrike will have their final Sunday on March 4th. This will be a Sunday of celebration to reflect on their past 17 plus years with Nith Valley! There will be a potluck following Sunday school and an open mic for sharing memories.

PCRC ministry team has submitted an application seeking an intentional interim pastor for a 24 month period beginning sometime after March 4th when a suitable candidate is made available for our church. If you have any questions about this process please see any member of PCRC: Dan, Brenda, Lyle, Janet, or Jackie.

Nith Valley Camp Sponsorship Fund:

The Christian Formation Ministry Team is committed to supporting faith formation beyond our Sunday School hour. As a Church we recognize and affirm that summer camp is one such opportunity. Camp is an important faith forming experience for many children. We believe a camp experience is unique as it allows children and youth an opportunity to explore God's creation in new ways.

The Camp Sponsorship Fund exists to encourage all children to experience at least one year of summer camp at an MCEC affiliated camp (Hidden Acres, Silver Lake, Fraser Lake, and Ontario Mennonite Music Camp.) All children between ages 6-18 can draw upon this fund once every five years. The amount given will be \$250 each time the fund is used. To enquire more about this fund speak with Andy.

Prayer Request from MC Canada:

Last week, an all white jury acquitted farmer Gerald Stanley for the fatal shooting of Colten Boushie (Red Pheasant First Nation). The decision has unmasked, once again, the deep fracture between Indigenous and Settler peoples and the need for radical, structural change, to our legal systems and to our collective relationships.

Pray for transformation; that Settler peoples would do our work to undo our racism; that the Church will join, in greater measure, Indigenous led efforts to reform colonial structures that continue to oppress.

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