

*“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”*

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

January 17, 2010

**Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.**

**Gathering ~**

Lawrence Eady

**Worship in Song ~** “Here I Am”  
“Lion of Judah”  
“Jesus, All for Jesus”

**Congregational Life ~**

Linda Friesen

Offering ~ “Haiti Earthquake Relief”  
HWB # 389 “Take my life”

**Proclamation**

“In the Beauty of Holiness”

**“Who Are You Becoming?”**

Pastor Rudy Dirks

(Ephesians 4:15&16, pew bible pg. 1135)

**Sending ~** HWB # 420 “Heart with loving heart united”

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*“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”* expresses our desire to share our faith and love of Jesus Christ with all we meet. We welcome you and hope that your time with us will be enjoyable and enlightening. Families with children are invited to worship together with us in the service. For children 5 yrs old or younger who are not able to sit through the church service, there is a nursery downstairs, or a glassed-in room behind the sanctuary where you may sit with your baby and still follow the service. If you feel a sense of belonging, you are most welcome to be with us. Talk to us about how you can participate.  
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**German Worship Service - 10:00 am**

**Andachtsleiter: - Hans H. Dau ~ Gruss: Johannes 12:26**

Chorlied: “Herr, lass mich werden so wie Du“

Opfergaben: “Haiti Earthquake Relief”

Lied: GB # 356 “Es lebe Gott allein in mir“ (alle Verse)

Chorlied: “Liebet euch unter einander“

**Schriftwort:** Römer 12:9-13

**Botschaft: “Mahnung zu brüderlichen Gemeinschaft” - Ramona Neufeld**

Lied: GB # 355 “O Meister, las mich gehn mit dir“ (alle Verse)

**Nursery Volunteers** ~ Mike & Anneliese Friesen, Elijah Finlay.

## **JOYS & CONCERNS:**

**The flowers** in the front have been placed in memory of Helmut Boldt who passed away 4 years ago on January 17, 2006. He is lovingly remembered by his family. Our prayer is that as passage of time brings healing, the presence of God becomes sweeter.

**Katharina Ediger** was taken into the custody of Family and Children's Services in September. Please pray for Katharina, her mother Rosalind, and all those involved at this difficult time. The pastoral staff is aware of this situation.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**Pastor Rudy & Sharon** will be at a pastor's conference from Jan. 19-22 incl. Please direct any pastoral concerns to Stephen Cox.

**2010 Church Photo Directory** is here! You can pick up your directory after service in the foyer, or stop by the office during the week. If you submitted a picture, the originals are in your mailbox. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this project.

**Minutes** from the fall membership meeting of Oct. 25, 2009 are available at the Welcome Centre. Please read before the annual membership meeting that will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

**Men's Bible Study** - is starting up again. We will be meeting on Wednesday nights from **7 – 8 pm** in the choir room. We will be studying 1, 2 & 3 John together. First meeting of the winter is on Wednesday, **January 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**There will be no choir practice on Thursday, Jan. 21.**

**The opening session** of the new Bible Study on the book of Revelation will take place on **Friday, January 22 at 7:30 pm**, in the boardroom behind the church office on the second floor of the Sunday School Building. For additional information please call Udo Woelke.

**Attention bakers** - we need volunteers to bake cookies or squares for the Church Membership Meeting on Saturday **January 30<sup>th</sup>**. Please sign up at the welcome center or give Audrey Epp or Erika Froese a call.

**Eden Sausage Sale** – Orders due by **Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>**. Order forms can be picked up by the mailboxes or contact Kim Baergen. Please put completed forms in her mailbox.

**For our year end 2009**, we had donations and other revenue of \$ 387,687. This was \$ 24,063 short of our goal. We are still finalizing our financial statements to determine our ending position.

**Balcony Glass Installation Update** – This project will be scheduled to begin once we receive donations and pledges totalling \$10,000 and the parking lot debt has been retired. We have now received in excess of \$10,000 in donations and pledges towards the balcony project and only have **\$2,000** remaining on the parking lot debt.

## **MISSIONS & SERVICE:**

**Aids Care Kits:** Thank you to everyone who donated material goods for this project. They will be delivered to the MCC Ontario warehouse in Kitchener tomorrow. Missions and Service Committee continues to solicit your monetary contributions for the **Generations at Risk** program of MCC. Through this response to HIV/AIDS, people at risk are being educated, diagnosed, treated, and cared for with dignity.

## **YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS:**

**Sunday January 24th** - Jr. Youth will be going tobogganing ! Please meet at church at 2pm - dress warm and bring your favorite toboggan. In case of NO snow we will still get together to play Wii and other games.

### **Sermon Series: “Why Church?”**

Ever since the first followers of the risen Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit in a common gathering, Christians have come together in worship, fellowship, and service as the church. Over the past two thousand years the church has, at various times, been persecuted, institutionalized, corrupted, divided, and renewed. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, changing society, alternate forms of faith, and our own busy lives require us to face the question, “**Why Church?**”. The answers to this question may encourage us to affirm some of who we are and what we do as the church, and may also challenge us to let go and be willing to change some other things. Ultimately, the church is not our church but God’s church, with Christ as the Head.

Article 9 of the “Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective” begins with: *We believe the church is the assembly of those who have accepted God’s offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. The church is the new community of disciples sent into the world to proclaim the reign of God and to provide a foretaste of the church’s glorious hope. The church is the new society established and sustained by the Holy Spirit. The church, the body of Christ, is called to become ever more like Jesus Christ, its head, in its worship, ministry, witness, mutual love and care, and the ordering of its common life.* (free copies of the Confession of Faith books are available at the Welcome Centre in lobby.)

During this sermon series we will focus on the following key themes related to the question, “**Why Church?**”:

- January 10      **“Who are You? Where do You Belong?”**  
...the assembly of those who have accepted God’s offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
- January 17      **“Who are You Becoming?”**  
...the new society established and sustained by the Holy Spirit. The church, the body of Christ, is called to become ever more like Jesus Christ, its head, in its worship, ministry, witness, mutual love and care, and the ordering of its common life.
- January 24      (Stephen Cox preaching)

January 31

**“Why are You Here?”**

*...the new community of disciples sent into the world to proclaim the reign of God and to provide a foretaste of the church’s glorious hope.*

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE Jan. 17-23/10)**

<b>Monday:</b>	Women’s Bible Study	7:00 pm
	Young women’s bible study	7:00 pm
	Male Choir Practice	7:30 pm
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Women in Mission Quilt	9:00 am
	Women in Service Quilt	7:00 pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Pioneer Clubs	6:30 pm
	Prayer Meeting	7:00 pm
	Men’s Bible Study	7:00 pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	German Choir Practice	7:00 pm
	<b>NO</b> Choir Practice	
<b>Friday:</b>	Sr. Youth	7:30 pm
	Revelation Bible Study	7:30 pm

**Next Sunday, January 24, 2010**

<b>8:45 am</b>	Praise & Worship Practice
<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Primary &amp; Junior Sunday School Singing</b>
<b>9:45 am</b>	Prayer Meeting in the Prayer Room
<b>10:00 am</b>	Sunday School Classes (age 3 to Grade 8)
	Grade 9 – 12 ~ “The World & Us”
	Catechism Classes (in boardroom)
<b>Interactive Sermon</b> - “same message – different format (in auditorium) – Pastor Rudy Dirks	
<b>10:00 am</b>	German Worship Service ~ Message by Jakob Peters
<b>11:00 am</b>	Worship Service ~ Message by Stephen Cox

Nursery Volunteers **Jan. 24:** Todd & Julie Dow, Alex Schmidt.

<b>Offering January 10, 2010 – \$ 8,961.00</b>			
Budget	6,475.00	Christian Witness	921.00
MCC General	685.00	Parking Lot	460.00
Balcony	410.00	Young Adults	10.00
<b>Next Week’s offering (Jan. 24):</b> Budget			
<b>Attendance Jan. 10, 2010:</b> German Service ~ 96; Worship Service ~ 295			

Agenda for Annual Membership Meeting  
Saturday, January 30, 2010 at 2:00 pm

1. Opening Devotions
2. Acceptance of Agenda
3. Appointment of Teller's Committee
4. Acceptance of Membership Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2009
5. Committee Reports & Financial Statements – All Committees
6. Audited Financial Statements & Treasurer's Report
7. Budget for 2010
8. Break
9. Elections of Committee Members
10. Election of Delegates – MCEC Conference – Niagara
11. Congregational Focus for 2010 – Spiritual Council
12. Baptismal Practices – Spiritual Council
13. Other Business
14. Closing

**MC CANADA & MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

**Haiti Earthquake**

Although Mennonite Church Canada presently has no direct ministry involvement in Haiti, the devastating Jan. 12 earthquake evokes much compassion in our congregations for this already fragile country. Mennonite Church Canada enjoys a strong partnership with its relief and development agency, Mennonite Central Committee. Relief efforts are already being coordinated by Mennonite Central Committee. Below is a brief update from them, along with instructions on how readers can help.

Please continue your generous prayers and contributions for the people of Haiti. MCC is committed to a long term rebuilding response and welcomes your support. Please mark your donation envelopes for "Haiti Earthquake".

**IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:**

*For more details of the following announcements, please see the posters on the "Community Bulletin Board" at the bottom of the stairs in the foyer.*

**MENNONITE BURIAL SOCIETY** - The Annual General Meeting of the Mennonite Burial Society will be held on Saturday, **January 23, 2010, 2 pm**, at the Tabor Manor Chapel in St. Catharines.

**"Cool In The Furnace"**, presented by Young Singers of Niagara, is open to children from Grades 1 to 9 who enjoy singing. Practices are held at Fairview Church, 455 Geneva Street, on Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 am. First practice/ registration will be Saturday, **January 23**. For further information, please contact Helen Warkentin at 905-688-9153.

**Movie Nights at Onefortyfive (Quest)** - Onefortyfive is quest's center for spirituality and the arts. We are opening to the public and will be having gallery exhibits, movies and concerts. Our first movie showing is on Friday, January 22 at 7:30pm. We will be showing "Food Inc." a documentary about industrial food production concerns. For more information or event listings check our website at [www.onefortyfive.com](http://www.onefortyfive.com)

**Nursery Volunteers Needed at Quest** - If you are interested in helping us out on a rotating basis by providing nursery care one Sunday a month from 5:30pm to 7:00pm we would greatly appreciate the help! Because of the high percentage of children attending quest most of our adults are needed for teaching Kidsquest children (ages 4 to 11) leaving nobody for our nursery. Any help is appreciated!