

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

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

January 24, 2010

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

**Gathering ~**

Laury Riediger

**Worship in Song ~** “You are salt for the earth” HWB # 226

“Beneath the Cross”

“Heaven Came Down”

(Quartet: Joachim Dau, Kenton Janzen, Alex & Jon Bradnam)

**Congregational Life ~**

Erv Willms

Offering ~ Budget

MCC “Haiti” video clip

**Proclamation**

Children’s Story

Lolita Hale

“Amazing Grace”

**“Christ our Kinsman”**

Stephen Cox

(Book of Ruth, pew bible pg. 257)

**Sending ~** HWB # 430 “God be with you”

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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: - Udo Woelke ~ Gruss: Matthäus 24:35**

Orgelspiel: Laury Riediger

Chorlied: “Die teure Bibel“

Opfergaben: Budget

Lied: GB # 262 “Singe mir es noch einmal vor“

Chorlied: “Ich bin das A und O“

**Schriftwort:** Micha 6:8

**Botschaft: “Das Wort Gottes” - Jakob Peters**

Lied: GB # 450 “Ach bleib bei uns, Herr Jesu Christ“

Segen: GB # 161 “Segne und behüte”

**Nursery Volunteers** ~ Todd & Julie Dow, Alex Schmidt.

## **JOYS & CONCERNS:**

**Please pray** for those who are struggling with health issues and are not able to be with us this morning. Also keep praying for the situation in Haiti, that their basic needs will be met and that they turn to God for hope, comfort and strength as they rebuild their home.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**Cheryl Schmidt** will be out of the office on Thursday. Emily Fieguth will be in the office from 8:00 am – 11:00 am.

**2010 Church Photo Directory** is here! You can pick up your directory during the week at the church office or at the Welcome Centre (today only).

**Report Booklets** for the annual membership meeting are available at the Welcome Centre, the mailboxes & in front of the church office. Please read before the meeting.

**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.

**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.

**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.

## **YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS:**

**TODAY** the 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.

## **MISSIONS & SERVICE:**

**Aids Care Kits:** Thank you to everyone who donated material goods for this project. 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.

## **MCEC ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING:**

**The MCEC Spring Gathering** is taking place at Club Roma in St.Catharines on Friday Evening **April 23<sup>rd</sup>** and during the day on Saturday, **April 24<sup>th</sup>**. Parking Attendants and Ushers are required to help on both days. Please let our church contact, Alex Bradnam, know if you can help in these areas. If you have lodging available for Friday night please contact Becca Willms, who is co-ordinating lodging for those attending from out of our area. Esther Funk of Vineland UMC is serving as the Hosting Committee Chairperson for this event.

## **MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

### **Haiti Earthquake**

#### **MCC Invites Blankets, Sheets and Relief Kits for Haiti**

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is undertaking a multimillion-dollar, multi-year response to the earthquake that struck Haiti Jan. 12. You can help through prayer for the people of Haiti and by donating to MCC's Haiti Earthquake appeal. **In addition**, MCC is asking for donations of 20,000 relief kits, 10,000 heavy comforters and 10,000 sheets (queen-size, double, or king) for shipment now through Feb. 28. Material aid may be brought to the Welcome Centre. Donate online at [donate.mcc.org/project/haiti-earthquake](http://donate.mcc.org/project/haiti-earthquake) or mark your church offering envelope "MCC Haiti".

### **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

**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?”**
- January 17      **“Who are You Becoming?”**
- 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.*

In February we will continue our study of the church with a series on “Becoming the Church”. Through this study let’s pray for God’s wisdom and transformation for this particular part of His church we know as Niagara United Mennonite Church.

<b>Offering January 17, 2010 – \$ 14,631.32</b>			
Budget	5,485.00	Christian Witness	145.00
MCC General	105.00	Parking Lot	520.00
MCC Haiti Earthquake	7,991.32	MCC School Kits	5.00
MCC Africa	40.00	Quest Church	25.00
Balcony	315.00		
<b>Next Week’s offering (Jan. 31): “Haiti Earthquake Relief”</b>			
<b>Attendance Jan. 17, 2010:</b> German Service ~89; Worship Service ~ 258			

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE Jan. 24-30/10**

<b>Today:</b>	Jr. Youth – tobogganing	2:00 pm
<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
	Choir Practice	8:00 pm
<b>Friday:</b>	Sr. Youth	7:30 pm
	Revelation Bible Study	7:30 pm
<b>Saturday:</b>	Annual membership meeting (in gym)	2:00 pm

**Next Sunday, January 31, 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 Udo Woelke
<b>11:00 am</b>	Worship Service ~ Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks

Nursery Volunteers **Jan. 31:** Matt Bradnam & Michelle Farrell, Sydny Finlay.

# Haiti Earthquake

As the devastation from the Haiti earthquake continues to unfold, Mennonite Central Committee is undertaking a multimillion-dollar, multiyear response to provide emergency assistance and long-term rebuilding and trauma support.

In addition to cash donations, MCC is asking for 20,000 relief kits, 10,000 heavy Comforters and 10,000 flat sheets. MCC needs these for shipment now through Feb. 28. MCC workers and MCC partner organizations are on the ground assisting in recovery efforts as they are able. The larger MCC response is underway, with two shipping containers of canned meat being airlifted into Haiti. Subsequent containers are being shipped by sea. With your gifts of money, MCC is buying and distributing tarps and tents, first aid supplies and 1,000 water filters that each can purify 300 gallons of water per day. These should arrive in Haiti soon.

## **MCC's response:**

- Immediate assistance: shelter, food and water; medical and other emergency supplies
- Long-term recovery: rebuilding and trauma healing

## **How you can help:**

**Donate** to MCC's Haiti Earthquake appeal.

- Online at [donate.mcc.org/project/haiti-earthquake](http://donate.mcc.org/project/haiti-earthquake)
- By cheque to the MCC office nearest you
- By telephone (toll-free): 1-888-622-6337

**Give relief kits, heavy comforters or flat sheets** – needed for shipment now through Feb. 28. See a relief kit contents list (below), dropoff locations and specifications for comforters and sheets at [mcc.org/kits](http://mcc.org/kits) or call your nearest MCC office. Twin-size comforters are preferred. Sheets, which will be used as bedding and mosquito netting, should be light-colored and double-, queen- or king-size.

**Pray** for those who are suffering and those who are providing help and comfort.

**More information about MCC's response can be found at [mcc.org](http://mcc.org)**

## **MCC: Haiti Earthquake Material Aid Response**

### **Relief kit contents:**

- 4 large bars bath soap (leave in wrapping)
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo (380-710ml; place bottle in a re-sealable plastic bag)
- 4 large bars of laundry soap \*\*this item has become increasingly difficult to find. Bulk Barn carries a limited supply. If you can't find it, bring your kits without it; we will add the laundry soap bars from our own supply at the Kitchener warehouse.
- 1 squeeze-tube toothpaste (minimum 130ml; leave in box)
- 4 adult-size toothbrushes (leave in packaging)
- 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colours)
- 2 wide-tooth combs (15 to 20cm)
- 1 fingernail clipper
- 1 box adhesive bandages (minimum 40, assorted)
- 1 package sanitary pads (18-24 thin maxi)

Place contents in a box or bag and bring to a local thrift store.

MCC will repack the kits in a new 5-gallon plastic pail with lid.

**Sheet details:** New, double-, queen- or king-size, flat sheets.

- 300 thread count or higher. Cotton, light colours

**Heavy blankets:** these can be the hand knotted comforters or purchased heavy blankets. The reason for heavier weight blankets is that people are sleeping outside on the ground and heavyweight blankets provide more warmth in those conditions.

### **More resources**

- Do listen to the podcasts from our workers in Haiti: <http://mcc.org/> under "Haiti eyewitness".
- There are also downloadable videos under "Haiti resources".