

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

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

January 31, 2010

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

**Gathering ~**

Linda Goerzen

**Worship in Song ~**

“Rising”

“It’s Time”

“My Saviour, My God”

“I will serve the Lord” (choir)

**Congregational Life ~**

John Tiessen

Offering ~ MCC “Haiti Earthquake” Relief

HWB #362 “Help us to help each other”

**Proclamation**

“How Can I Say” (choir & congregation)

**“Why are You Here?”**

Pastor Rudy Dirks

(John 17:15-19, pew bible pg. 1048)

**Sending ~** HWB #344 “I will sing of my Redeemer”

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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: - Gunnar Doerwald ~ Gruss: Johannes 15:5**

Chorlied: “Führ mich, O mein Heiland“

Opfergaben: MCC “Haiti Erdbeben Hilfe”

Lied: GB # 351 “Mir nach, spricht Christus, unser Held” V.1-3,6,7

Chorlied: “Näher noch näher“

**Schriftwort:** 1.Korinther 9:22b-27; Philipper 3:4,7-9a,12-16

**Botschaft: “Wir sind alle auf dem Weg” - Udo Woelke**

Lied: GB # 340 “Bei dir, Jesu, will ich bleiben“

**Nursery Volunteers** ~ Matt Bradnam & Michelle Farrell, Sydney Finlay.

## **JOYS & CONCERNS:**

**We express our sympathy** to Adine & Jake Enns on the passing of Adine's mother, Maria Kondratenko. She passed away on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and her funeral was held on January 27<sup>th</sup>. May God bless their family as they mourn.

**John & Jocelyn Thwaites** are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Andrew, to Alicia Jobse, daughter of Alfred and Theresa Jobse. May God bless the young couple with joy and His presence.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UMC CHURCH:**

**2010 Church Photo Directory** can be picked up during the week at the church office..

**Women in Service** will be having a potluck dinner on Tuesday, **February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm** with husbands/friends.

**Eden Sausage Sale** – **Last day to order.** Order forms can be picked up by the mailboxes or contact Kim Baergen. Please put completed forms in her mailbox.

**February newsletter** is on the website. Hard copies can be picked up at the Welcome Centre.

**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.

**Updates to church website:** “Croft News” newsletter from our Missions Prayer Partners, the Sudermans can be found under the heading of “News”. Also, the sermon series have been grouped separately.

## **MISSIONS & SERVICE:**

**Order a tropical plant arrangement** for a friend, relative or yourself for Valentine's Day, a birthday, or just an everyday. Profits will go directly to **MCC for Haiti relief**. Check Welcome Centre for order forms with price lists. Planter orders will be available for pick-up on Saturday, Feb. 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 at the church.

## **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.

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE Jan. 31-Feb. 6/10)**

<b>Monday:</b>	Marriage Preparation Course	6:30 pm
	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 Potluck Dinner	6:00 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

**Next Sunday, February 7, 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 Doris Dirks
<b>11:00 am</b>	Worship Service ~ Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks

Nursery Volunteers **Feb. 7:** Sylvia Tissen & Mary Janzen, Kathryn Wiens.

<b>Offering January 24, 2010 – \$ 11,473.78</b>			
Budget	6,714.78	Christian Witness	140.00
MCC General	160.00	Parking Lot	260.00
MCC Haiti Earthquake	3,390.00	Balcony	35.00
MCC Africa	774.00		
<b>Next Week's offering (Feb. 7):</b> Missions (MC Canada Witness)			
<b>Attendance Jan. 24, 2010:</b> German Service ~112; Worship Service ~ 241			

**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".

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

### **Relief kit contents:** (individual items or whole kit)

- 4 large bars bath soap (leave in wrapping)
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo (380-710ml); place bottle in a resealable plastic bag)
- 4 large bars of laundry soap \*\* this item has become increasingly hard 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 130 ml; 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 20 cm)
- 1 fingernail clipper
- 1 box adhesive bandages (minimum 40, assorted)
- 1 package sanitary pads (18-24 thin maxi)

Supplies Drop off supplies at the church in the lower foyer by the Missions bulletin board. MCC will pack kit items in 5-gallon pails at their warehouse.

### **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.

A complete MCC Relief Kit is on display below the missions bulletin board in the front lobby. If you would like to contribute kit items, please add them to the basket by Feb 21. For financial contributions, please mark your offering envelope "MCC Haiti".

### 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.

### **IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:**

**Pleasant Manor Auxiliary:** we would like to thank the Pleasant Manor Staff, Residents, and all the many Volunteers who gave of their time to help at our baking days and at the Bazaars. It was wonderful to see so many people come to our Spring and Christmas Bazaars. We appreciate the donations of baked goods and crafts that we receive from the Residents of the Pleasant Manor Community and our Church Community. Thank you to the ladies that did such a lovely job on the quilts.