

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

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

February 14, 2010

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

**Gathering ~**

**Worship in Song ~** “We want to see Jesus lifted high”  
“Blessed be Your name”  
“Faithful One”

**Congregational Life ~**

Linda Friesen

Offering ~ Budget  
HWB #100 “Praise him, praise him!”

**Proclamation**

“God of wonders”  
**“Yield to the Lover of Your Soul”**  
(Song of Songs 7:10, pew bible pg. 661)

Pastor Rudy Dirks

**Sending**

~~~~~  
*“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.  
~~~~~

**German Worship Service - 10:00 am**

**Andachtsleiter: - Ramona Neufeld ~ Gruss: Ps 9:2-3**

Chorlied: “Der Herr ist mein Hirte“

Opfergaben: Budget

Lied: GB # 365 “Sagt es laut das Gott die Liebe“

Chorlied:

**Schriftwort:** 1Kor 13:1-13

**Botschaft: “Der Weg der Liebe” - Joachim Dau**

Lied: GB # 249 “Herz und Herz“

**Nursery Volunteers** ~ Dave & Martha Dizio, Justin Redekop.

## **JOYS & CONCERNS:**

**The flowers** in the front have been placed in memory of Henry Pankratz, who passed away 5 years ago on February 8<sup>th</sup>. He is lovingly remembered by his family.

**Please pray** for Henry Pauls (Emilie) who is in the St. Catharines General Hospital.

**Please pray** for Jake Enns who is in the St. Catharines General Hospital.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**The office** will be closed Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for Family Day.

**2009 Financial Tax Receipts** are printed and in your mailboxes.

**The Parking Lot Fund** has successfully been paid for. A special thanks to all who have supported this major capital project over the last number of years. We can now move forward with the Balcony Glass Renovation this summer. Please mark your envelopes with Balcony.

**MCC Promotion Dinner** - Much help is needed to prepare for this worthwhile event. We need food prep, servers, clean up help and most certainly dessert makers. Please keep this in mind for **Saturday Feb. 27, 2010** and sign up in the foyer ASAP.

**Note from Sunday School:** Just an update on what's going on---we are practicing for a number of events we are going to Upper Canada Lodge and Chateau Gardens as a service project with Gr. 2-8 on Mar. 7. We will be taking a bus, and will be leaving at 9:50 a.m. and coming back for noon. We will also be practising for Palm Sunday which is on March 28. March Break is right around the corner, we will not have Sunday school on March 14<sup>th</sup>, but will resume for March 21<sup>st</sup>.. Please keep these dates in mind and thank you so much for bringing your kids on Sunday mornings, ,it's a whirlwind of activity where you know God's Spirit is. Thank you.

**Volunteers still needed for committees:** Jr. Sunday School Superintendent & Assistant, both needed for Fall 2010, Music committee (2-year term), Nursery coordinator (1 year term), Jr Youth sponsors (one couple needed now and another couple to start in the fall). If you are interested in any of these committees, please inform the office or Henry Bergen.

**We now have** copies of "Maranatha" a German Daily Devotional booklet available at the Welcome Centre.

**Springfest** – Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

## **MISSIONS & SERVICE:**

### **FUNDRAISERS FOR MCC**

**Benefit Choral Concert for Haiti** to be held on Sunday, **Feb. 21 at 7:00 p.m.** in our church sanctuary. Participating will be our church choir, the Niagara Community Male Chorus, and various other groups. A freewill offering will be taken to support MCC - Haiti.

**Promotion Dinner** for MCC Relief Sale will take place at our church on Saturday, **Feb. 27, at 6:00 p.m.** The theme for the evening is MCC's Generations at Risk - HIV/AIDS, especially in subSaharan Africa. Guest speakers are Aaron Amwite (IVEP from Uganda) and Clarke Fretz (MCCO Program Director). Tickets are available in the foyer for \$15.00 each or \$40.00 per family. Please come out for an evening of fellowship, information sharing, entertainment, and of course, a delicious meal. But most of all, come out to support MCC.

**YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS:**

**Jr Youth** will be going to the Fallsview Water Park on Sunday **Feb., 28th.** Cost \$25 includes supper. Meet at church at **2:30 sharp!!** You and any friends you are bringing **MUST** sign up by calling Erv and Esther Willms or Pam and Rob Glass. Pick up at church at 9pm.

<b><u>THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE Feb. 14-20/10</u></b>	
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</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 Quilt 7:00 pm
	Spiritual Council Meeting 7:00 pm
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Pioneer Clubs 6:30 pm
	Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
	Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm
	Missions & Service Committee Meeting 7:30 pm
<b>Thursday:</b>	German Choir Practice 7:00 pm
	Choir Practice 8:00 pm
<b>Friday:</b>	Sr. Youth – Battle of the Bands 7:30 pm
<b><u>Next Sunday, February 21, 2010</u></b>	
<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 <b>Feb. 21:</b> Anita Sawatzky & Kendra Sawatzky.	

<b>Offering February 7, 2010 – \$ 9,337.25</b>			
Budget	4,725.55	Christian Witness	969.70
MCC General	1,575.00	MCC Africa	10.00
MCC Food	127.00	Balcony	215.00
MCC Haiti Earthquake	1,355.00	Yella	360.00
<b>Next Week's offering (Feb. 21): MCC</b>			
<b>Attendance Feb. 7, 2010:</b> German Service ~ 89; Worship Service ~ 272			

### **Sermon Series: "Being the church"**

In the last sermon series "Why Church", we explored who **belongs** to the church (everyone who accepts Jesus' offer of salvation), who we are **becoming** (continually transformed by Christ rather than conformed to the world), and our **purpose** (just as God sent Jesus into the world, so also Jesus sends us into the world).

Over the next few weeks as we move into the Lent season and prepare ourselves for Easter, we will look at the practical outworking of Christian community as taught by the Apostle Paul to the Christians in Rome. Romans 12 is an excellent teaching on how to experience the love that is at the heart of Christian community. The chapter begins by emphasizing the need to be transformed in our thinking (vs 2), and filled with genuine love (vs 9). In the verses 3-21 Paul fleshes both of those out as he teaches us how to relate to each other within community, as well as how to relate to the world at large. In this series on **"Being the Church"** we will focus on the practical teachings of verses 9-13 where in a few concise phrases Paul tells us how we can be the church we are called to be, reminding us, as Marva Dawn notes, that... ***"God loves us so much that he accepts us just as we are, but he also loves us too much to let us stay that way."***

**Feb 7**            ***"Abhor evil: cling to good"***

**Feb 14**            ***"Yield to the Lover of Your Soul"***  
 (Not really part of the sermon series, but certainly relevant to it, this message is a Valentine's card from God to you – a good sermon to invite a friend or work colleague to)

**Feb 21**            ***"Honouring the Point"***

**Feb. 28**            (John Tiessen preaching)

**March 7**            ***"No More Burn-out"***

**March 14**        ***"Patience in Suffering"***

**March 21**        ***"Hospitality at its Best"***

## **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.

April is coming quickly and we still are in need of a Communications Coordinator(s) for the conference. Please contact anyone in your congregations that would qualify and could help us in this position. We will not have to bring much equipment in, the Club Roma facility has just about everything we need.

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

**The Deacons of Jazz** will be holding a benefit concert on **February 26**, at The First Mennonite Church (3557 Rittenhouse Rd, Vineland) at **7:30 pm** for MCC HIV/AIDS program. Coffee and desserts to share.

**Silver Lake Mennonite Camp**, Roundtable and Discussion – Reconnecting with Our Past, will be held at the home of David Bergen in St. Catharines on Sunday **February 28, 2010 from 2-4 pm**. This is intended to be an opportunity to explore ways of strengthening the relationship between SLMC and the Niagara constituency. Please RSVP by February 24, 2010 to David Erb – silverlake@slmc.on.ca or 519-576-9381

**The World Day of Prayer** service will be held on **Friday, March 5**. This year it will be hosted by St. Vincent de Paul Church here in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Make a point of attending this special ecumenical service. This year's theme is "Let Everything That Has Breath Praise The Lord" and the program has been written by the women of the Cameroon in Africa. We will have more information next week.

**Living Proof Live** with Beth Moore & Travis Cottrell at the Ricoh Coliseum (Exhibition Place, Toronto) on March 12 & 13. Cost \$60. Please see poster for more details.

**Summer Camp** Registrations are now being accepted for Silver Lake Mennonite Camp. Brochures and registration forms are available in the church office or may be found at [www.slmc.on.ca](http://www.slmc.on.ca)

## **MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

**Haiti Update:** We are excited to report that the first container of MCC canned meat, 1000 water filters and accompanying water buckets have been delivered to people in Haiti. A shipment of inventoried relief kits have also been delivered to Haiti, and we are approaching 2000 relief kits here in Ontario. MCC continues to welcome financial and material donations. For the latest updates on MCC's response in Haiti, visit <http://mcc.org/haitiearthquake/news>. **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.

## **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 Mission's 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 donation envelope "MCC Haiti".**