

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

**Niagara United Mennonite Church**

March 7, 2010

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

**Gathering ~**

Laury Riediger

**Worship in Song ~**

“Speak O Lord”

“Blest Are They”

“I Will Sing Your Glory and Praise” (choir)

“Calm Me, Lord”

**Congregational Life ~**

Stephen Cox

Offering ~ Missions (MC Canada Witness)

HWB # 575 “Precious Lord, take my hand”

**Proclamation**

Children’s Story

Sue Fast

“Teach me thy truth” HWB #548

**“No More Burn-Out”**

**Pastor Rudy Dirks**

(Romans 12:11, pew bible pg. 1101)

**Sending ~** HWB # 332 “Blessed assurance”

~~~~~  
*“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: - Wilhelm Harder ~ Gruss: Johannes 7 :37 + 38**

Orgelspiel: Giesela Doerwald

Chorlied: “Wer ist würdig“

Opfergaben: Missions (MC Canada Witness)

Lied: GB # 267 “ Ich weiss einen Strom“

Chorlied: “Am Gnadentor stand ich“

**Schriftwort:** Offenbarung 22 : 10 - 21

**Botschaft: “Gottes letzte Einladung” - Dr. Alfred Fast**

Lied: GB # 255 “Horch, Dein Heiland laesst Dich laden“

**Nursery Volunteers ~ Karl & Laurene Nickel, Victoria Tiessen.**

## **JOYS & CONCERNS:**

**George & Jennifer Friesen** are proud to announce the safe arrival of their third child, a baby girl, Lauryn Georgia born on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Proud grandparents are John & Tina Friesen and Robert & Joyce Irvine. A little sister for Logan and Cole.

**The flowers** in the front are in loving memory of Ida Tgahrt who passed away on March 6, 2000. Our prayer is that as passage of time brings healing, the presence of God becomes sweeter.

**Jake Enns** is home from the hospital but values your continued prayers .

**Jake Epp** is home from the hospital and recovering. He and Lena are grateful for your prayers and visits. Continue to pray for Jake as he awaits a further medical procedure.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**Daylight Saving Time** begins next weekend on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The clocks will spring forward one hour.

**Cheryl Schmidt** will be on vacation March 12-21 incl. Emily Fieguth will be in the office during that time on flexible hours.

**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), 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.

**Bibles left in the library** – if you've misplaced your bible, there is a children's bible and a German bible that was left in the library.

**Attention all Moms!** You are welcome to join us in the nursery ever other Thursday, next one **March 18<sup>th</sup>** from **9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** for some socializing and sweets. Children are welcome to play while we connect with the moms in our church and community. Bring a friend, relative, or neighbour! Coffee and treats will be provided. For more information, contact Sarah Froese.

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

**Marriage Prep. Classes** – Thank you to all the families who helped prepare the meals and for their dedication. Also, thank you to Alf & Kathy Guenther and Jake & Sylvia Tissen for their leadership. Many blessings to the couples and their families.

## 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”***

**MC CANADA:**

### Chile Earthquake Relief

To address the tragedy of natural disaster in Chile, Mennonite Church Canada is working closely through our existing relationships with Anabaptist churches in Chile, as well as with partners Mennonite Central Committee and Mennonite Mission network to direct aid to Chile. Please you’re your donation envelopes “Chile Earthquake Relief”. Mennonite Church Canada will ensure your generosity is used for relief efforts in Chile in a responsible and accountable manner.

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE Mar. 7-13/10**

<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
	Church & Spiritual Councils Meeting	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>	Choir Practice	8:00 pm
<b>Friday:</b>	Sr. Youth	7:30 pm

**Next Sunday, March 14, 2010**

- 8:45 am** NO Praise & Worship Practice  
**9:30 am** NO Primary & Junior Sunday School Singing  
**9:45 am** Prayer Meeting in the Prayer Room  
**10:00 am** NO Sunday School Classes (age 3 to Grade 8)-res. Mar. 21  
 NO Grade 9 – 12 ~ “The World & Us”-resumes Mar. 28  
 NO Catechism Classes (in boardroom)-resumes Mar. 28  
**Interactive Sermon** - “same message – different format (in auditorium) – Pastor Rudy Dirks  
**10:00 am** German Worship Service ~ Hans J. Wiens  
**11:00 am** Worship Service ~ Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks

Nursery Volunteers **Mar. 14:** Esther Willms & Sarah Froese, Daniel Willms & Izaak Reimer.

<b>Offering February 28, 2010 – \$ 10,002.70</b>			
Budget	7,430.70	Christian Witness	150.00
MCC General	50.00	MCC Africa	10.00
MCC Food	182.00	Balcony	280.00
MCC Haiti Earthquake	315.00	Yella	245.00
Pork-on-a-Bun	40.00	Cdn Bible Society	1,200.00
Friends of Menn. Ctr Ukraine	100.00		
<b>Next Week's offering (Mar. 14): Budget</b>			
<b>Attendance Feb. 28, 2010:</b> German Service ~ 84; Worship Service ~ 208			

**IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:**

**Woman's Heart Course:** Beginning on Thursday, **March 11**, Agnes Vrieze is offering this 6-week course at Central Community Church in St. Catharines. The cost is \$45 for all six sessions. This is an expanded version of the course which Agnes presented here last fall. Check the Welcome Centre for a brochure.

**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.

**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the Laotian Community in the Niagara Region on Saturday, **March 27, 2010, 3:00-6:00 pm** at St. Catharines United Mennonite Church, 335 Linwell Road, St. Catharines.

**IT'S COOL IN THE FURNACE** - A Musical being presented by the Young Singers of Niagara in partnership with Fairview Church (455 Geneva St., St. Catharines). Plan now to come and enjoy this evening on Sunday, **March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**. A great evening of songs, story and refreshments.

**The Evolving Church**: Kingdom Economy is a one day conference that will take place on **April 10, 2010** at The Peoples Church (374 Sheppard Ave. E, Toronto) with speakers Brennan Manning, Joyce Rees, David Dark and many others. Discounted price of \$45. per person if register by **March 31<sup>st</sup>**, however we are offering 5 free tickets for young adults. Signup sheet at the Welcome Centre with instructions & code for the discounted price. The office can help if you need assistance registering.

### **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 the church or Alex Bradnam if you 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.