

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

August 22, 2010

Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Gathering ~

Linda Goerzen

Worship in Song ~ “Wonderful grace of Jesus” HWB # 150
“Brethren, we have met to worship” HWB # 8
“Over my head”

Congregational Life

Joachim Dau

Offering ~ Missions (MC Canada Witness)

HWB # 16 “God is here among us”

Assembly Highlights

Christina Cox

Proclamation

“There’s A Quiet Understanding”

“Disarming the Powers”

Pastor Rudy Dirks

(Colossians 2:6-15, pew bible pg. 1143)

Sending ~ “The peace of the earth 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.  
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German Worship Service - 9:00 am

Andachtsleiter: - Hans H. Dau – Gruss: Psalm 24:1,2,9,10

Orgelspiel: Linda Goerzen

Musik: “There's A Quiet Understanding”

Opfergaben: Missions (MC Canada Witness)

Lied: GB# 27 “Lobe den Herren”

Musik: “Wehrlos und Verlassen”

Schriftwort: Matt. 5:13-16

Botschaft: “Das Licht in unserer Welt” ~ Joachim Dau

Lied: GB# 130 “Geist des Glaubens”
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Special Music for this morning’s services by Lolita Hale, Mary Pries, Susan Fast, Sheryl Janzen, Peter Heidebrecht, Kenton Janzen and accompanied by Marlene Borzychowski.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS:**

**Please continue to pray** for Irma Loewen. She had surgery this past week and is still in the St. Catharines General Hospital. Pray for a full recovery.

**MEALS:** We as a church can be supportive to each other in many ways. One of the ways is to bring a meal to a family experiencing a difficult time to help ease the burden. If you are able to help when these situations arise, please call the church office and talk to Sharon or Cheryl, so we can make a list of people interested in participating in this ministry as needed.

**As you think of others** who need the tangible expression of Christ this week, make a call, or a visit - maybe even bringing a meal or a meaningful reading or scripture. You are his messengers of love and grace to each other.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**ATM donations:** please remember to fill in an offering envelope so that you are credited. If you have forgotten in the past, please contact the church office asap.

**All ladies** are invited for Thursday morning breakfasts at Lawrenceville Restaurant in Virgil. We meet the first Thursday of each month at 9:00 am.

**Food Pantry** – Our pantry shelves are empty. Donations of pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, canned stew, hearty soup, breakfast cereal, granola bars or any other non perishable food items would greatly be appreciated. Donation baskets are at the bottom of the foyer stairs.

**AL-ANON Family Group meeting.** Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Then AL-ANON is for you. Meeting held in the Youth Room every Thursday 8:00-9:00 p.m.. Note: AL-ANON is an anonymous fellowship.

**Choir Social-** Ok all you **Choir members Praise and Worship members Easter or Christmas joiners** get ready to have a rip snorting time sending and blessing John and Kathy Rempel onto their next stage in life. No sad sacks, they have served God and our church well and are not leaving us. Be prepared to have a sharing time (or roast) as we celebrate around our fellowship table. Join us on **Friday September 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm** in the church gym. R.S.V.P. before September 5<sup>th</sup> to any of the following Martha Bartel, Sue Fast, Lani Gade or Bev Devolin.

**The 2nd Annual Men's Canoe Weekend** in Haliburton will take place on **Sept 24 to 26**. We have room for 16 people so please register with John Thiessen or Joachim Dau as soon as possible. (We will need a \$20.00 deposit to cover reservation costs)

**Found** – a key for a Lincoln car. Please go to the Welcome Centre if it's yours.

**Toy Drive** Our nursery is in need of some toys. If you have donations of gently loved toys please bring them to the nursery.

**Occasionally check** the job postings & volunteer opportunities bulletin board beside the mailboxes.

## **JUNIOR SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

We are looking forward to the fall. We have a very active primary and elementary department. The children are an absolute delight to be around. If you want to be in on the grassroots end of the church, plug into this very rewarding ministry. We are still looking for some teachers and assistants. Please contact Stephen Cox if you feel a calling to this ministry.

### ***“Subverting the Empire”*** **Colossians 1-4**

Caesar ruled the world. Pax Romana governed the affairs of every nation, racial group, family, and person. Rome demanded everyone’s ultimate allegiance. The Emperor was to be worshipped above all other religions. It is in this context that Paul wrote his letter to the churches of Colossae and Laodicea. A warm, personal, powerful letter to a small group of Christians who were just trying to figure out how to live as an outpost of the kingdom of God within a dominant, seemingly invincible empire.

Over the next few weeks we will explore this letter and discover how remarkably relevant its message still is for us in our age of empires:

- August 1        ***“Small Church: Big Empire”***  
Colossians 1:1-14
  
- August 8        ***“Subverting the Empire”***  
Colossians 1:15-23
  
- August 15       ***“Giving it Everything”***  
Colossians 1:24-2:5
  
- August 22       ***“Disarming the Powers”***  
Colossians 2:6-15
  
- August 29       ***“Don’t Get Religious”***  
Colossians 2:16-23
  
- September 5    ***“Ruled by the Peace of Christ”***  
Colossians 3  
(the rest of the sermon series - to be announced)

As we study this letter together, I invite you to read the passages on your own as we study them. Read them in different Bible versions. Think of one question for each passage. Underline a key phrase or verse in each passage in your own Bible. Ask God to speak to you through His Word, so that you too can grow in wisdom and faithfulness to the gospel just like the Colossian believers – and by extension, so that we as a congregation (just another outpost of the kingdom of God living among our empires) can increasingly be ruled by Christ in everything.

**Contract Renewal Vote –**

Pastors Rudy & Sharon Dirks’ contracts with our congregation expire on December 31, 2010. We will be holding a membership vote after the church service on September 19, 2010 on whether to offer them a third term.

Rudy & Sharon have indicated that if we offer them another contract they will be taking a four month sabbatical during this next term. This has been reviewed by both Church & Spiritual Councils who support their sabbatical plan and have prepared an information package for church members.

The information package includes material that was presented at the Spring Membership Meeting and is available at the Welcome Centre, the mail area and on the church web site under the “News” tab.

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|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE Aug. 22-28/2010</u></b>        |                                                  |
| <b>Monday:</b>                                             | OFFICE CLOSED                                    |
|                                                            | Young women’s bible study 7:00 pm                |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>                                            | Spiritual Council Meeting 7:00 pm                |
|                                                            | Education Committee Meeting 7:00 pm              |
| <b><u>Next Sunday, August 29, 2010</u></b>                 |                                                  |
| <b>9:00 am</b>                                             | German Worship Service ~ message by Jakob Peters |
| <b>10:00 am</b>                                            | Worship Service ~ message by Pastor Rudy Dirks   |
| There will be no nursery volunteers for the summer months. |                                                  |

|                                                                               |           |               |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|----------|
| <b>Offering of August 8 &amp; 15, 2010: \$16,077.50</b>                       |           |               |          |
| Budget                                                                        | 11,729.50 | MCC General   | 2,078.00 |
| Christian Witness                                                             | 690.00    | MCC Africa    | 835.00   |
| MDS                                                                           | 50.00     | MCC Food      | 275.00   |
| Menn. Ctr for Ukraine                                                         | 50.00     | Balcony Fund  | 220.00   |
| Student Aid                                                                   | 50.00     | Building Fund | 50.00    |
| Deacon’s Fund                                                                 | 50.00     |               |          |
| <b>Next Week’s offering (Aug. 29):</b> Budget                                 |           |               |          |
| <b>Attendance August 15, 2010:</b> German Service ~ 76: Worship Service ~ 172 |           |               |          |

**IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND:**

**FROM THE CHRISTIAN BENEFIT SHOP:** Our thanks for your continuing support. Keep us in mind as a fun place to volunteer some time for MCC. You’ll get to play the Mennonite Game all day long. Our specific volunteer needs at this time are for someone to price toys and someone to occasionally work on sorting and pricing shoes. **To our volunteers:** Please try to attend at least one of these volunteer meetings: **Aug 30:** sorters and pricers; Aug 31: clerks and cashiers; Sep 1: receiving and repair. The meetings will be at 7:00 pm at the Scott Street MB Church. *Thanks...Joan and Phil Steininger*

**A Musical Soirée** at Vineland UM Church on **September 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.** –Tickets \$25. Come and enjoy an evening of 17<sup>th</sup> Century Baroque Music with scrumptious desserts to follow. See bulletin boards for more details. Tickets are limited and available from Rita Boldt.

**MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

**Reaching out to struggling neighbours in Pakistan** - MCC is appealing for donations towards the serious flooding in Pakistan and is forwarding funds to trusted and experienced agencies who are already working there. Please use your donation envelopes “Pakistan Flood Relief”.