

“Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community”

Niagara United Mennonite Church

August 29, 2010

Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Gathering ~

Lawrence Eady

Worship in Song ~ “I’ve Got Peace”

“My Peace”

“Make me a channel of your peace”

Congregational Life

Linda Friesen

Offering ~ Budget

HWB # 329 “Great is thy faithfulness”

Assembly Highlights

Sharon Dirks

Proclamation

“If You Knew”

“Don’t Get Religious”

Pastor Rudy Dirks

(Colossians 2:16-23, pew bible pg. 1143)

Sending ~ “May God’s Blessing”

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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: - Gunnar Doerwald – Gruss: 1. Joh. 3:1

Orgelspiel: Lawrence Eady

Musik: “If You Knew”

Opfergaben: Budget

Lied: GB# 365 “Sagt es laut, daß Gott die Liebe”

Musik: “Make me a channel of your peace”

Schriftwort: Micha 6:8

Botschaft: “Nächsten Liebe” ~ Jakob Peters

Lied: GB# 375 “Mehr lieben möcht ich dich, hör mein Gebet”
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Special Music for this morning’s services by Lawrence & Carole Eady, Marlene Heidebrecht, Ramona Neufeld and Linda Friesen.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS:**

**Congratulations** to Mike & Anneliese Friesen on the birth of their son, Lukas Michael. He was born on August 23<sup>rd</sup> in Hamilton. Big brother Jack & big sister Claire are very excited. May God bless them & guide them.

**Peter & Trudi Heidebrecht** are pleased to announce the birth of their granddaughter, Sarah Nichole, born on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Parents are Chris and Monica Wiens, a sister for Jakob and other grandparents are Frank and Erica Wiens of St. Catharines. Great-grandparents are Jacob and Justina Reimer.

**Rudy and Sharon Dirks** are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Shawna to Keith McDonald, son of Warren and Colleen McDonald of St. Catharines. Shawna is a member of Cornerstone Community Church and Keith is a member of Harbour Fellowship. They plan to be married at this church on December 29, 2010.

**Linda Pankratz** would like to thank everyone for their well wishes and prayers during her recent illness. They were very much appreciated.

**Please pray** for those who are struggling with health issues in our congregation. Anneliese Belau is being cared for by Kathe and Kurt Wiens at their home right now. Irma Loewen is still in the St. Catharines Gen. Hospital after a successful surgery, and John Epp (formerly Creekview) is being cared for at Heritage Place. May God's loving, gracious, healing presence be a reality for each of these people and others who are not named.

**A special thanks** goes out to all the volunteers who helped us peel and cut peaches last Saturday. We were able to freeze 19 large pails of peaches for next year's MCC Relief Sale pies. It was a wonderful morning of fellowship among the more than 45 volunteers from various Mennonite churches in the Niagara Peninsula. Once again, thanks from the Missions and Service Committee.

## **WITHIN NIAGARA UM CHURCH:**

**Pastor Rudy & Sharon out** will be out of the office from Sept. 1-3 incl. Please direct any pastoral concerns to Stephen Cox.

**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 bins 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 Niagara Community Male Chorus** will begin its new season on **Monday, September 13**. Practices will be held every Monday evening at **7:30 pm** at our church. We welcome new members.

**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.

**Recording of Church Services** - Starting in September 2010, the worship services will no longer be recorded on cassette tapes, due to the increasing difficulty of finding replacement cassettes and the extensive maintenance required to continue this service. Both the German and English church services are and will continue to be available on DVD and the churches website.

### **YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS:**

**Youth Executive:** meeting Sunday **September 12<sup>th</sup>** after service in the youth room. Yes, pizza will be there. All grade 9's welcome.

**Youth Kick-Off Night:** Are you in grade 9-12? Come start the year off with a bang at our Kick Off night Friday **September 10<sup>th</sup>** from **7:30-10:30pm** at the Redekopp's 1536 Four Mile Creek Rd. If you have questions ask Stephen Cox.

### **JUNIOR SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

**Important Meeting** for all Sunday School Teachers: **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 7-8pm**. We will be handing out your teacher kits, going over the curriculum for the year, and explaining how things will work for now without a superintendent. If you cannot attend this meeting, please arrange with the office to pick it up through the week. Thank you for offering your gifts to our community!

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.

## **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.

## ***"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:

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|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 1  | <b><i>"Small Church: Big Empire"</i></b><br>Colossians 1:1-14 |
| August 8  | <b><i>"Subverting the Empire"</i></b><br>Colossians 1:15-23   |
| August 15 | <b><i>"Giving it Everything"</i></b><br>Colossians 1:24-2:5   |
| August 22 | <b><i>"Disarming the Powers"</i></b><br>Colossians 2:6-15     |
| August 29 | <b><i>"Don't Get Religious"</i></b><br>Colossians 2:16-23     |



Do you live with depression? Do you struggle with severe mood swings or anxiety? Living Room is a faith-based support group for people like you. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at the Vineland United Mennonite Church on 3327 Menno St. in Vineland from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.. For more information, contact Ester at 905-562-4422 or at [livingroomsupport@gmail.com](mailto:livingroomsupport@gmail.com).

**MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

"Let's make a generous statement that we love our 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 you're your donation envelopes "Pakistan Flood Relief".