

INSIDE...



Niagara United Mennonite Church

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Our Pioneer Club History, by Adine Enns

Our Education Committee in 2002-2003 felt a mid-week Children's Ministry was needed in our church. After much prayer, Pioneer Curriculum was chosen and on Wednesday, September 24, 2003 we celebrated the Opening of Pioneer Club, our Children's Ministry. We have been extremely blessed with wonderful children and volunteers. I am so grateful! There is no greater privilege than sharing the love of Christ with children.

The purpose of Pioneer Club is to help children and youth put Christ in every aspect of life by recognizing Him as Saviour and Lord and developing a lifestyle based on biblical values. The curriculum provides club members with opportunity to develop a variety of skills and abilities while developing positive relationships with God and others. Pioneer Club enriches children's lives with the relevant yet unchanging message of God's love.

The Pioneer Club logo is the shape of a triangle and it is made of an open Bible and a flame. The open Bible is the light that guides us in our life with Jesus. This special symbol reminds us of our theme verse, Psalm 119:105. *"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."* Our song is based on this verse and expresses our prayer, "Jesus be my guide and hold me to your side. Please be near me to the end."

Thy Word

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me
And nothing will I fear, as long as you are near
Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

I will not forget, Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus be my guide, and hold me to your side
And I will love you to the end.

How it all started...

One day in 1939, a 13 year-old girl Harriet Brehm in Winfield, Illinois, USA asked the boys' club leader Joe Coughlin, a Wheaton College student to start a girls' club. To find a leader Joe prayed hard and asked the college newspaper to tell about the need for a leader for the girls. While he prayed, God talked to Betty Whitaker. She cared about young people Harriet's age and had been asking the Lord for a way to help them. When she read the college paper, Betty knew it was God's answer and a few weeks later, October 7, 1939 the girls' club was started. It was called Girls Guild. Soon college students started Girls Guild clubs in other towns.

Two years later the name was changed to Pioneer Girls. Club activities were built around the idea of pioneering and adventure. In 1981 the name was changed to Pioneer Clubs and now both boys and girls can join. Over the last 70 years, Pioneer Clubs have been started in countries around the world. All clubs use the same books only in their own language and we all have the same goals. All children come to learn ore about Jesus, to have fun times and work on projects. Pioneer Club has been an exciting place for thousands of young people around the world.

Pioneer Club
At
Niagara United Mennonite Church, 1775 Niagara Stone Rd, NOTL
Starting Wednesday, September 15, 2010 6:30-8:00 pm

- A place where your child can:
- have fun with friends
 - study God's Word
 - develop Christian values
 - enjoy skill-building activities
 - build strong relationships
 - grow in healthy self-esteem

We have Pioneer club for boys and girls SK to Gr. 8
Registration Fee: \$35.00 per child

Have your child join us!
It's a good place to be!





September at a glance...

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 10:00 am Pastor Rudy Dirks	6 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 pm Young Women's Bible Study	7 7:30 pm Church Council Meeting	8 7:00 pm Prayer meeting	9 7:00 pm German Choir 8:00 pm Choir Practice	10 6:00 pm Choir Social 7:30 pm Sr. Youth	11
12 Fall hours resume 10:00 am Hans H. Dau 11:00 am Stephen Cox	13 7:00 pm Young Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Male Choir Practice	14	15 6:30 – 8:00 pm Pioneer Clubs opening & registration 7:00 pm Prayer meeting 7:30 pm Missions & Service Comm. Meeting	16 7:00 pm German Choir 8:00 pm Choir Practice	17 7:30 pm Sr. Youth	18
19 10:00 am Ramona Neufeld 11:00 am Stephen Cox Pastoral Contract Vote following Worship Service	20 7:00 pm Young Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Male Choir Practice	21 7:00 pm Spiritual Council meeting 7:30 pm Women in Service Meet	22 6:30 pm Pioneer Clubs 7:00 pm Prayer meeting	23 7:00 pm German Choir 8:00 pm Choir Practice	24 7:30 pm Sr. Youth	25
26 10:00 am Udo Woelke 11:00 am Pastor Rudy Dirks	27 7:00 pm Young Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Male Choir Practice	28	29 6:30 pm Pioneer Clubs 7:00 pm Prayer meeting	30 7:00 pm German Choir 8:00 pm Choir Practice		



September Birthdays ...

3 – Arno Enss (83)

9 – Mary Steingart (83)

19 – Hans Funk (85)

28 – Maria Heidebrecht (89)

8 – Mary Fuhrmann (86)

18 – Sinaida Enns (86)

20 – George Riss (82)

Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary



Paul & Margarete Rempel
(September 13)

Change of Address



Jonathan & Michelle Bradnam
c/o Alex & Alice Bradnam
27 Mississauga Rd
St. Catharines, ON L2N 3K3
(905) 934-7108

Change of Address



Jolien Koole
16-38 Elma St.
St. Catharines, ON
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(905) 397-7484

Change of Address



Katiana Wiens
RR#6, 1353 Larkin Rd
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katiana_wiens@hotmail.com

Date	Prayer Requests: Please pray for and with the Church	Ministry Notes: This is how your financial support of Mennonite Church Canada is ministering...from across the street to around the world!	News/Announcements: Stay in tune with the wider church
September 5	This month, Matt Tiessen of Leamington United Mennonite Church begins a one year Witness Internship, assisting with the auto-mechanics needs at Peacebuilders Community in Davao City, Philippines. Megan Enns of Foothills Mennonite church in Calgary will also join Peacebuilders this month as a research assistant. Pray that Matt and Megan's skills will be a blessing to their respective positions, and that their faith and commitment to the church will be enhanced by their experiences.	Christian Formation ministries devote staff time and resources to helping our congregations as they address the challenge of integrating older and younger adults in meaningful ways in the ministry of the local congregation. Thank you for the many prayers, expressions of affirmation and financial gifts that enable this work and help strengthen the ability of the church locally, regionally and nationally to respond to this pressing need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you missed Assembly 2010 or would like to review the highlights, check out daily reporting in The Roundup at www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1249. Other Assembly-related materials are also available there, such as photographs, worship resources, bible studies and an audio recording of the Assembly theme song specifically written for the event, Reclaim the Name. <p>Explore Burkina Faso in a way that no tourist could and experience the life and witness of a developing church community. A Mennonite Church Canada Learning Tour to Burkina Faso will take place Feb. 17 – 28, 2011. As they become available, more details will be posted at www.mennonitechurch.ca/getinvolved.</p>
September 12	This Sunday we celebrate publishing and Sunday School, two closely connected ministries. Please pray for staff, resource developers, Sunday School teachers and others who connect us with resource materials. Invite the Holy Spirit to provide discernment and innovation as they share the good news, evoke growth and seek the financial support necessary for their ministries.	We are privileged to support Mennonite Publishing Network, an agency that develops educational materials from an Anabaptist perspective. One of their new publications is a curriculum specifically designed for the very young (two-year-olds) – Wee Wonders. (See www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1386) Thank you for prayers and gifts supporting this essential ministry.	Bill C-447 – calling for the establishment of a government department of peace – is presently being processed through Canada's parliamentary system. Should the church – a long time advocate for the separation of church and state – advocate for Bill C-447? Why or why not? Tune in to the September podcast of Church Matters and hear how one senior youth group and their pastor have responded to Bill C-447. See www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/206 or subscribe in iTunes.
September 19	Mark and Lisa Wiebe begin a Radical Journey assignment this month. Pray that Mark and Lisa will experience the love and support of their home congregation of Douglas Mennonite Church in Winnipeg as they establish new and vital relationships.	Last summer, Mennonite Church Canada Witness workers who were in Canada preparing for a new term of service gathered with International Ministries staff and counterparts from Mennonite Mission Network for Mission Seminar. Alternating between a US and a Canadian location each year, this much anticipated annual event gave Witness Workers and their	Peace in the Public Square: Got an Act of Peace to share with others? Blog about it, inspire others, and get new ideas for Acts of Peace. Go to www.liveforpeace.org and click on "1000 Acts of Peace."

		families the opportunity to share experiences and challenges with other mission worker families, engage in a rich time of worship and teaching, and discuss ways of engaging their sending churches in their shared ministries. Thank you for the prayers, encouragement and financial support that help to sustain this important gathering.	
September 26	Mennonite Church Canada General Secretary Robert J. Suderman (Jack) retired in August, and the incoming General Secretary, Willard Metzger , does not assume the position until Nov. 1, 2010. Please pray that God will encourage and prepare both Jack and Willard as they transition into new roles. Invite God’s guidance and discernment for Mennonite Church Canada staff and ministries during the interim period.	At Mennonite Church Canada Assembly 2010, delegates passed a resolution seeking “...renewed opportunities to walk with Aboriginal people of Canada...” in response to residential schools survivors. Your support of Mennonite Church Canada facilitates these responses by encouraging relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people and congregations. Thank you for the prayers, encouragement and gifts that facilitate the search for truth, healing and reconciliation.	Facebookers – Get the latest from Mennonite Church Canada including personal updates from staff on the Mennonite Church Canada group on Facebook!

Sharing Corner ...

Churches need to be open to mental health issues, from the August 2, 2010 edition of The Canadian Mennonite. Submitted by Sue Fast.

Vineland, ON – Those attending the “Walking in hope: Spirituality and mental health” seminar given by Dr. John Toews at Vineland United Mennonite Church on June 10 were treated to a talk from the spry senior filled with vibrant hand gestures, personal anecdotes and often self-deprecating jokes. A published and decorated psychiatry professor, now retired from the University of Calgary, Alta., Toews is a member of many voluntary boards. In answer to the question, “What can the church do for people who suffer?” he said that they need to be open to discussions about mental illness. And when people fear that a loved one is suffering from mental illness, he said they should simply “listen. We can listen and we can love,” noting that “in the toughest, darkest times, in subtle ways, God speaks.” Dawn Penner, who works with Toews as a co-worker for Healing Streams, the event’s sponsor, was responsible for bringing him to town. Ester Funk, Vineland United Mennonite’s office administrator, was also present; she has been the facilitator of the church’s “Living Room” since it began this January as a bi-weekly meeting place to discuss mental illness. – Story by Andrea Epp

If you are interested in attending, you can contact Sue Fast. They meet 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month, from 6:3-8:30 pm.



Call to me and I will answer you, from the September issue of Equipping,

Frew Zinna, a former student of Mennonite Church Canada worker Fanosie Legesse at Meserete Kristos College in Addis Ethiopia, says that the words of Jeremiah 33:3 called him back to Christ and into ministry.

Frew grew up in a family that had been rooted in Evangelical Christian faith for three generations. His father taught in a Mennonite school started by the missionaries. “Having the privilege of being involved with the Mennonite Missionary work contributed to the whole family’s life because it gave access to good health care and education as well as being taught spiritually. Holistically, the missionaries had an impact on our lives,” Frew says.

After graduating from the Nazareth Bible Academy with “great distinction,” Frew received a scholarship to study at a government-run university. But two years later he was forced to leave school because of poor grades, low attendance and his use of “chat,” a locally grown leaf that is chewed for an amphetamine-like stimulus. He returned home disgraced and broken, bringing shame to his family. At the age of 20, with his mother on her knees beside him, Frew prayed for God’s guidance. He found a position as an English translator for a nurse at a Baptist Mission clinic. Living and working in the clinic community of foreign and national Christians stirred the embers of his abandoned beliefs.

Frew says he heard God speak to him on three different occasions through the words of Jeremiah 33:3. “Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.” His faith re-emerged when he realized that God had a personal interest in him and in his future. When the mission clinic closed, Frew found work as translator that drew him closer to the capital city of Addis Ababa and his commitment to church grew. He directed his prayer toward four ranked priorities; helping his family, attending college, entering into marriage, and ministering for God. When his pastor suggested that Frew should seek God’s will rather than his own priorities, Frew changed his approach to prayer and marriage rose to the top of his priorities. Frew married.

Over the next seven years as Frew continued in his job as a translator, people encouraged him to study at Meserete Kristos College. Although he wanted to pursue his studies, he did not feel it was the right time – until a dream changed his plans. In that dream, he saw an open envelope with a letter from MKC extending an invitation to study and a scholarship. Frew woke up and wept tears of joy, knowing that his dream to study would finally come true. And it did. As a 3rd year degree student at MKC, sitting in the college library surrounded by books, Frew jokes that he feels like Jesus must have felt as a small boy visiting the temple. “Surely this is where I belong!”

Frew says of his hopes for his future ministry, “I want to be fully engaged in the area of teaching. Change will come in the life of the church through teaching the body of Christ. My heart craves to teach God’s word.”



Other news...

Saturday, September 11, 2010 @ 6:30 pm. – “A Musical Soirée” to be held at the Vineland United Mennonite Church. Tickets \$25. Come and enjoy an evening of 17th Century Baroque Music with scrumptious desserts to follow. This fundraiser supports the Ministry of Healing Streams. A Ministry working with people in the DR of Congo, who are struggling to recover from many years of war. Tickets are limited – get yours now. Tickets are available from Rita Boldt.

Jazz Standards and Cool Gospel Concert featuring soloists Melissa Shriner, Kevin Baker and the 20-piece Jimmy Stahl Big Band orchestra. Sunday, Sept 19th at 6:30 pm at Grace Mennonite Church, 677 Niagara St, St. Catharines. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$12 in advance (www.gospelmeetsjazz2.eventbrite.com for advance tickets). Call Melissa at 905 941 6916 for more info.

The Alpha Course is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life and the Christian faith. It will be held for eight Monday evenings, starting September 27th, from 6:30—9:00 p.m. at Bethany Mennonite Church, 572 East & West Line. Each evening begins with a meal followed by a video presentation. For more information call 905-468-7155 or visit www.alphacanada.org

The Marriage Course is designed to help build a healthy marriage that will last a lifetime. It will be held for eight Monday evenings, starting September 27th, from 6:30—9:00 p.m. at Bethany Mennonite Church, 572 East & West Line. Each evening begins with a meal followed by a video presentation. For more information call 905-468-7155 or visit www.themarriagecourse.ca

Visit the following website <http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/resources/equipping/index.htm> to learn more about Mennonite Church Canada. Also visit our area conference’s website, <http://mcec.ca/> to learn more about Mennonite Church of Eastern Canada.

*If you would like to submit any photos or articles for the newsletter, please contact the office at 905-468-3313 or e-mail at office@redbrickchurch.ca. **Deadline for the October newsletter is September 28, 2010.***