



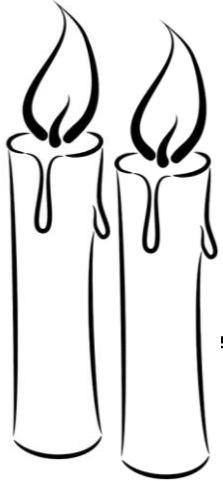
Sunday, December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader — Judy Cornies

Speaker — Paul Cornies



*With voice and heart we worship God together at NLUMC.
We strive to be a welcoming community who live our faith
in active and practical ways of discipleship and service.*

Order of Worship

Bell choir processional — The Little Drummer Boy

Announcements

Words of welcome

Hymn VT #212, *Comfort, Comfort, O My People*

Call to worship, Advent candle lighting and prayer

Offering with hymn VT #259, *To Us a Child of Hope Is Born*

Offering prayer

Children's time

Hymn VT #219, *Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord*

Scripture reading — Isaiah 40:1-5, 11; Psalm 85:8-13; Mark 1:1-8;
2 Peter 3:8-9, 14-15a

Message — Turn to Him in your Heart

Hymn VT #255, *Love Came Down at Christmas*, verse 1

Sharing and prayer

Hymn VT #255, *Love Came Down at Christmas*, verses 2 & 3

Benediction

Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the worship service.

Church Life . . .

◆ Third Sunday of Advent, December 17

► Join us for worship at 10 am with Sandra Warkentin leading worship and Chris Hutton bringing the message.

► On Sunday, December 17 for Advent, we will be talking about "How long do I have to wait for answers to my questions?" So we would love to hear YOUR questions about God, faith, and life these days! If you would like to share a question about faith on your heart and mind these days, go to

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KNQZVWW> by **Friday, December 15** and share with us!

♦ Keeping Heads WARM...Toques for Kids!

According to Major Judi Wikens at **The Salvation Army**, there are many children, adolescents and adults in our surrounding communities that do not have adequate winter wear. This is the last week for the collection of warm toques, mitts and gloves. They must be new items . . . purchased or hand knit. There is a bin in the church foyer ready for your donations. Thanks!

— Upcoming Events —

Sunday, December 24, 10 am – Fourth Sunday of Advent

with regular worship including songs
and readings by the Sunday school children.

Sunday, December 24, 6:30 pm – Christmas Evening service

with readings, carols, children's nativity scene, and candle lighting.
There will be treat bags for the children.

Monday, December 25, 10 am – Christmas Day morning service

with children's story, readings, carol singing, and reflections on the question
Why is the birth of Jesus important to you?

2024

Sat. & Sun. January 6 & 7 – Credence & Co. workshops

Sunday, January 21 – NLUMC Annual General Meeting

♦ **In Preparation for the January 21, 2024 Annual General Meeting**, please have all reports for the report booklet in to the church office by Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

♦ Credence & Co. Workshop

Credence & Co. will lead our congregation through a weekend event on **January 6 & 7, 2024** navigating through interactive workshops focusing on Congregational Discernment and Decision-making. They will engage participants and integrate skill development through story-based learning and interactive dialogue, using a combination of videos, diagrams, and activities. This will be an intense weekend of learning and sharing and growing our church community as we journey together at NLUMC.

All NLUMC members & participants are invited to mark their calendar for this upcoming workshop. It is encouraged that we all take part in the two-day sessions as they will be a valuable asset for our ongoing vision at NLUMC.

◆ Donations to NLUMC

► Have you considered increasing your automatic transfer donation amount?
► Your donations to NLUMC can also be offered through Abundance Canada if your family is setting up a Gifting Fund through charitable stocks and bonds in-kind. Visit <https://abundance.ca>

► Donations are accepted by:

- 1) Automatic transfers – contact Susan
- 2) E-transfer – email treasurer@nlumc.com - include member # in message
- 3) Offering on Sunday morning

Contact Susan Klassen, office@nlumc.com; or Brenda Klassen, treasurer@nlumc.com

Community/Conference Events . . .

◆ UMEI Christian High School News

► **UMEI's Choir Christmas Concert** will be held on **Wednesday, December 13** at 7 pm. There will be a free-will donation to help send our choir to the CAMS Music Festival in Winnipeg this April. Your support is greatly appreciated so all 31 choir members can partake in this memorable experience!

► **Thank you** to all the generous donors who have already supported our Annual Autumn Campaign. The contributions we have received have made a tremendous impact on UMEI, enabling us to continue offering high quality Christian education to students in our community. We are just over halfway to our goal, and we would be honoured if you continued to help us make a difference in the lives of our students. Donations can be made by e-transfer to office@umei.ca or on our website at umei.ca/giving.

◆ **Carolinian Wild Church, Sunday December 17, 4 pm.** An outdoor service of worship with creation around the firepit at Harrow Mennonite Church, 3167 Walker Rd, Harrow, with personal time for wandering and reflection. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Every 3rd Sunday of the month at 4 pm, meet by the parking lot, RAIN or SHINE. Dress accordingly. Washrooms in the church building. Facilitators: Karen Sheil, Susan Kennel Harrison, Ruth Boehm. For more info: fmcleamington1@gmail.com

◆ **Christmas Dinner.** Please join us for our **29th Annual Christmas Dinner, Monday, December 25.** Dine-in starting at noon. Take-out available for pick-up at 1 pm. Delivery available for shut-ins (Leamington Wheatley, Kingsville only). St. John's Anglican Church, 60 Erie St. N. Leamington. Call 519-326-3111 by noon December 24 to register. Registration required for pick-up and delivery. There is no cost or obligation.

◆ Mennonite Central Committee News

► **2023 Christmas Giving Guides** are available in the church foyer. Choose gifts that change lives this year. Or go to [Christmas Giving | Mennonite Central Committee \(mcc.org\)](https://www.mcc.org/Christmas-Giving) to see the list or donate online.

► **MCC Annual Reports** are available in the brochure rack in the church foyer.

◆ **The SWO Gleaners' Annual Christmas Campaign** is well underway. Thank you to all who have already supported us in 2023! The demand for our soup mix and apple snacks is growing every year. With great volunteers and generous supporters, we continue to increase our production. In 2023, over 4.5 million servings of soup mix have been distributed through international and local partnerships. To make a donation to the work of the SWO Gleaners, please visit our website www.swogleaners.ca or e-transfer to swogleaners@gmail.com. Thanks for all your support!

◆ Local Canadian Foodgrains Bank Update

Thank you to all for your support of the Foodgrains Bank in an effort to end world hunger. Here is a quick update of our local efforts for 2023. Our local project for 2023 was three fields; Tiessen family grew corn, Epp family and Agris Co-op (which is led by Chad Recker) grew soybeans. 18.3 acres in total which yielded 2,842 bushels which we sold for a gross of \$22,674.

We also received generous donations; \$10,126 towards our project expenses and \$7,888 was donated at the rollkuchen and watermelon event. This, by the way, was a well attended event. Lots of volunteers and everyone wants us to do it again next year. Last year we held it on the 3rd week of June and it worked out well. Stay tuned. Total revenue of \$40,688. Expenses were; \$8,756 for the crops and \$664 for the rollkuchen event. Net; \$32,866 which we sent to Foodgrains Bank.

We retain a balance of \$3,755 to get next year's projects started.

The need in the world is great and thank you all for your efforts in trying to feed the hungry. . . *Henry Klassen*

◆ **The Leamington Mennonite Home** is very pleased to advise our supporting congregations the Homeview renovation project is fully complete. Again, a big thank you to all our donors who made this project possible. Your resources allowed the Home to refurbish this building from top to bottom. We are extremely grateful!

As you know, the Home purchased the vacant lot at the corner of Pickwick and Heritage Lane this past October. The Home would also be grateful to continue to receive donations towards the purchase price of this lot. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Junior Youth

Junior Youth CHRISTMAS PARTY!!

Friday, December 15, 6:30-8:30 pm at the church.

Come ready to celebrate Christmas! Dress festive and fun for the season (Christmas sweaters are encouraged!). There will be lots of fun games!

Prayer List . . .

Neighbouring Congregation — Today, in our cycle of prayer, area churches are remembering **St. Michael's Roman Catholic Parish** and their pastor Tom Ferrera.

East week **MCEC, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada**, prays for one of our congregations. This week we are praying for **Église Bethésda Mennonite de Saint-Hyacinthe** in Quebec City, Quebec.

To view more information from MCEC go to [News & Events - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada \(mcec.ca\)](#)

Missions — see Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) for giving opportunities, www.mcc.org

Thought for the Day

**Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will
speak peace to his people, to his faithful,
to those who turn to him in their hearts. . . Psalm 85:8**

Connect . . .

- Check out our church website at nlumc.com, including YouTube videos of our past services.
 - Watch our Sunday morning service via YouTube livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCdn1sLuXDZYqHsEyd92k0g/featured>
 - Get updates on our ministries by joining our Facebook group.
 - See photos of what we are doing on our Instagram page.
 - Contact the church office, pastor or Council members for information.
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Care . . .

If you are aware of any crises needs or visitation needs within our community of faith, please contact the church office or Linda Driedger, Caregiving Team chairperson, 519-733-6130.

Contacts . . .

Chris Hutton cell 519-613-1971 pastor@nlumc.com
David Hrynyk cell 613-743-9299 youthleader@nlumc.com
Church Council Chairperson; Brenda Fischer; Council members; Dennis Dick,
Dennis Driedger, Brenda Klassen, Sandra Warkentin, Sonya Cornies, Paul Tiessen,
Ryan Derksen, Linda Driedger, Kevin Fischer, Barb Fischer, Ken Hamm, Joanne
Brown, Paul Cornies, Greg Driedger.
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Facebook: North Leamington United Mennonite Church
Website: www.northleamington.com Instagram: [wethenorthchurch](https://www.instagram.com/wethenorthchurch)
Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 3 pm