



Sunday, December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Communion

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader — Marla Dault
Speaker — Chris Hutton



*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

Announcements

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

Welcome and opening

Hymn #215, *Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee*

Call to worship

Special music — O Come, O Come, Immanuel sung by Joan Willms

Children's time

Offering

Special music — Welcome to Our World

Scripture reading — Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Message — How long must I wait?

Communion

Sharing and prayer

Hymn #218, *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Benediction



Today . . . The early church combined the celebration of Communion with a program of offering food to the less fortunate. The Missions Team recommends that we follow a similar practice through the donation of grocery cards. Today, come celebrate Communion and drop off a grocery card for SECC. Donations can also be made at <https://www.secc.on.ca/donate/>.

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

Church Life . . .

◆ **Second Sunday of Advent, December 10**

Join us for worship at 10 am with Judy Cornies leading worship and Paul Cornies bringing the message.

◆ **Tuesday December 5, 2 pm, NLUMC Seniors' Christmas Tea and Carol Sing** in JC Neufeld Lounge.

◆ **Community Building Team News.** Pizza Night is the **second Friday of each month** at the Roma Club, Leamington. Bring your family - everyone orders and pays for their own pizza and drink. **Friday, December 8** will be the next gathering. Doors open 6 – 10 pm. Come as you are available.

◆ **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!

◆ **Communication Tree**

Awhile back, in direct response to a congregational survey, Church Council created a Communication Tree to be able to reach out to those members who had participated sharing feedback. We would again like to use this Communication Tree. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact anyone on Church Council to add your name. This is one tool for our members/participants to have personalized contact with a Church Council member to dialogue about our church vision and how we are journeying with Jesus in our everyday life.

◆ **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. The Missions Team is launching a collection of warm toques, mitts and gloves for the next two weeks. 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 17 – Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24 – Evening service

Monday, December 25 – Christmas Day morning service

2024

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

Sunday, January 21 – NLUMC Annual General Meeting

◆ 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 Senior Drama Class presents *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Goose* on **Friday, December 8, 7 pm** and **Saturday, December 9, 2 pm**. Tickets can be purchased in advance in the UMEI office or at the door.

► **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!

► **UMEI Pie Orders!** Order pies in time for the holiday season and support student fundraising for their trips. Orders can be placed in the office or by email to office@umei.ca by **Thursday, December 7 at 12 pm**. Pie pick up will be **Thursday, December 14** at 3:30 pm.

◆ **Essex Kent Mennonite Historical Association News!**

Friday, December 8, Travelogue: MEDA in Tanzania with Dean Shoemaker, 7 pm at the Heritage Centre. Everyone welcome. Admission by donation

◆ **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.

◆ **Silver Lake Mennonite Camp News**

► **SLMC Outtrips** – Registration opens December 1 for children and teens who would like to participate in an overnight hiking or canoe trip during Summer 2024. Sign up before February 1 to get \$100 OFF. Visit slmc.ca/summer-camp.

► **SLMC 2024 Retreats** – Registration for 2024 retreats at Silver Lake opens December 1. See the full list of retreats at slmc.ca/retreats.

Prayer List . . .

Neighbouring Congregation — Today, in our cycle of prayer, area churches are remembering **Leamington Christian Centre** and their pastor Dan Tamburo.

East week MCEC, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, prays for one of our congregations. This week we are praying for **East Zorra Mennonite Church** in Tavistock, Ontario.

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

Thought for the Day

**Turn us again to yourself, O LORD God of Heaven’s Armies.
Make your face shine down upon us.
Only then will we be saved.
Psalm 80:19**

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 . . .

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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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Website: www.northleamington.com Instagram: [wethenorthchurch](#)
Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 3 pm